

Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Monday, the sixth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4063

(Senators G. Nelson, Mathern)

(Representatives Dorso, Boucher)

(Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to continue to fund the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory.

WHEREAS, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory was founded in 1912 and operates on a budget of \$2.6 million; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory supports North Dakota and Northern Great Plains agriculture through an integrated program that combines soil and crop management and conservation, irrigation and water management, forage and grassland management, and forage improvement; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory has virtually unparalleled facilities, both in terms of land resources and in terms of the combination of different soil, plant, and animal science specializations; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory has generated critical research findings regarding the conversion of conservation reserve program land to cropland; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory has generated critical research findings regarding the importance of shelterbelts to agriculture in the Northern Great Plains states and the viability and hardiness of certain tree varieties for use as shelterbelts; and

WHEREAS, the President's fiscal year 1998 budget proposes an appropriation of \$726.8 million for the Agricultural Research Service, and spending proposed for certain programs within the service necessitates the termination of other research programs and the closure of research facilities, including the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory; and

WHEREAS, the continued funding of the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory is necessary to ensure both the continued viability of North Dakota agriculture and sustainable food production in the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly urges Congress to continue to fund the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 1997,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State