

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3043

Introduced by

Representatives Wald, Carlson, Gerntholz, Keiser, Tollefson

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the feasibility and desirability
2 of implementing hail suppression programs for the reduction of property damage in urban areas
3 and funding the programs through property and casualty line insurance premium taxes.

4 **WHEREAS**, county-sponsored summertime cloud seeding operations to mitigate hail
5 damage have been conducted in North Dakota since the 1960s; and

6 **WHEREAS**, evaluations show strong evidence of the benefits within cloud seeding
7 target areas, including 45 percent reductions in crop hail damage and six percent increases in
8 wheat production; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the technology developed through combined research and operational
10 efforts in this state has been and continues to be successfully applied and developed by a
11 native North Dakota company in numerous other projects elsewhere in other states, provinces,
12 and countries; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the domestic property and casualty insurance industry of Alberta, Canada,
14 has joined with a native North Dakota company in funding and implementing a five-year pilot
15 program for the suppression of property and casualty hail damage within major metropolitan
16 target areas, including the cities of Calgary and Red Deer; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the domestic property and casualty insurance industry of this state has
18 suffered considerable hail losses in recent years attributable to urban hailstorms in Bismarck,
19 Grand Forks, and Minot, and as a result some insurance companies are withdrawing from the
20 North Dakota market; and

21 **WHEREAS**, if hail continues to strike larger urban areas, it is likely additional insurance
22 companies will withdraw from the North Dakota market and premiums and deductibles will
23 continue to increase;

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

- 1 That the Legislative Council study the feasibility desirability of implementing hail
- 2 suppression programs for the reduction of property damage in urban areas and funding the
- 3 programs through property and casualty line insurance premium taxes; and
- 4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
- 5 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
- 6 the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly.