

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3050

Introduced by

Representatives Kretschmar, Oban, Glassheim

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study options and transition plans for
2 scheduling the regular legislative session in even-numbered years.

3 **WHEREAS**, the session schedule of the Legislative Assembly should ensure the most
4 efficient and effective use of legislators' and the public's time and resources; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the 1995 Legislative Assembly recognized the constitutional flexibility in
6 scheduling the regular session by establishing a means to allow the Legislative Council to
7 reconvene the Legislative Assembly using days available after the session in the odd-numbered
8 year and within the eighty-day constitutional limitation for the biennium; and

9 **WHEREAS**, a number of reasons have been offered for a different session structure,
10 including the need to adequately address budget matters, to make better use of the interim
11 process, to provide more diversity in legislative representation by citizens, to allow more
12 committee time for bill processing, to provide time for legislator orientation and training, and to
13 provide opportunities for leadership to develop agendas, budget alternatives, and support for
14 major legislation; and

15 **WHEREAS**, scheduling a legislative session during even-numbered years may provide
16 time for a more productive session schedule, and provide for better use of the interim between
17 legislative sessions; and

18 **WHEREAS**, any changes in the scheduling of the legislative session should balance the
19 value of a productive citizen legislature with the need for enhanced expertise and experience in
20 dealing with increasingly difficult, complex issues, and an increasing workload;

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

23 That the Legislative Council study options and transition plans for scheduling the regular
24 legislative session in even-numbered years; and

- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
- 2 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
- 3 the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly.