

Introduced by

1 A concurrent resolution urging the continued cooperation and coordination among county social  
2 service agencies to provide for the delivery and administration of social services in a  
3 cost-effective and efficient manner.

4 **WHEREAS**, during the 1997-98 interim the Legislative Council's Budget Committee on  
5 Human Services studied the organization of the Department of Human Services, including the  
6 county social service role in the coordinated delivery of social services; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the committee's consultant recommended that county social services be  
8 encouraged to continue to develop the delivery of social services in a consolidated manner; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the delivery of human services in North Dakota has been studied numerous  
10 times, including the 1942 Public Administration Service study, the 1970 Touche Ross study,  
11 and several Legislative Council interim committee studies; and

12 **WHEREAS**, previous Legislative Council studies resulted in recommendations that  
13 county social services be delivered efficiently and county social service boards be encouraged  
14 to plan and create fiscal efficiency and improved delivery of services by merging administration,  
15 staff offices, and social workers; and

16 **WHEREAS**, previous Legislative Council studies have identified the significant efforts  
17 that counties have made to date and that financial incentives and other state assistance and  
18 encouragement should be provided to encourage counties to continue to develop the sharing of  
19 services on a voluntary basis; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the 1997 Legislative Assembly approved House Bill No. 1041 that requires  
21 counties to assume the financial responsibility for the administration of locally administered  
22 economic assistance programs, such as medical assistance and temporary assistance for  
23 needy families, which was intended, in part, to allow counties to assume a greater share of the  
24 administrative and program costs in areas in which they exercise control while the state

1 assumed a greater share of costs in grant programs in which the state or the federal  
2 government determines program parameters and payment levels; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the 1997-98 Budget Committee on Human Services learned that counties  
4 are conducting time studies and as a result will be able to identify costs of social service  
5 delivery on the county level that will assist county social service boards and county  
6 commissions in determining local changes necessary to achieve efficiencies in the delivery of  
7 social services;

8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF**  
9 **NORTH DAKOTA, THE \_\_\_\_\_ CONCURRING THEREIN:**

10 That the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly encourages the continued cooperation and  
11 coordination among county social service agencies to provide for the delivery and  
12 administration of social services in a cost-effective and efficient manner; and

13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Department of Human Services is urged to  
14 encourage and assist county social service agency efforts in voluntary consolidation and in  
15 developing efficiencies in the delivery of county social services; and

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly recognizes the  
17 need to support county social service agencies and the Department of Human Services efforts  
18 through necessary legislation and financial support.