

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3003

Introduced by

Legislative Council

(Budget Committee on Long-Term Care)

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the mill levy match program for
2 senior citizens to determine if the program could be expanded to enhance home and
3 community-based service availability.

4 **WHEREAS**, the 1971 Legislative Assembly established the mill levy match program for
5 senior citizens and the 1991 Legislative Assembly amended the program and restricted the
6 types of expenses for which those mill levy funds can be used to a variety of services designed
7 to assist senior citizens in maintaining independence, including home-delivered meals,
8 transportation, outreach assistance, congregate dining, and health-related services; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the 1997 Legislative Assembly appropriated \$1,050,000 for the mill levy
10 match program for senior citizens for the 1997-99 biennium, an increase of \$150,000 over the
11 1995-97 appropriation of \$900,000; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the majority of funds from the mill levy match program for senior citizens is
13 distributed by city or county commissioners to agencies that contract with the Department of
14 Human Services to provide services under the Older Americans Act; and

15 **WHEREAS**, many elderly residents of rural communities throughout the state rely on
16 these service providers as one of the few alternatives to institutional care; and

17 **WHEREAS**, funds from the mill levy match program for senior citizens are also used to
18 leverage a variety of federal funds that provide for an assortment of in-home services for the
19 frail and elderly; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the use of funds from the mill levy match program for senior citizens to
21 serve an at-risk population in the least restrictive environment makes the program an integral
22 part of the continuum of long-term care services; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning views the mill levy match
24 program for senior citizens as an important component in the overall provision of long-term care
25 services to the senior citizens of North Dakota;

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

3 That the Legislative Council study the mill levy match program for senior citizens to
4 determine if the program could be expanded to enhance home and community-based service
5 availability; and

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
7 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
8 the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly.