Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4025

Introduced by

Senators Lyson, Kelsh, Wanzek

Representatives Drovdal, Rennerfeldt, Solberg

1	A concurrent resolution urging Congress to analyze the operating environment of the Farm
2	Service Agency and ensure that attempts at efficiency recognize customer needs and
3	expectations.
4	WHEREAS, the Secretary of Agriculture has required that there be significant
5	reductions in the United States Department of Agriculture staff at the national, state, and local
6	levels; and
7	WHEREAS, between 1993 and 1996, federal staff in Farm Service Agency offices was
8	reduced by 16 percent and county staff was reduced by 15 percent; and
9	WHEREAS, before 1993, the Farm Service Agency offices had 14,953 nonfederal staff,
10	and by the year 2002, there will be only 4,879 nonfederal staff for county offices, or a reduction
11	of 66 percent; and
12	WHEREAS, the decline in staff is greater than the anticipated decline in workload; and
13	WHEREAS, in seeking efficiencies, the Secretary of Agriculture has determined that it
14	is preferable to have fewer and larger offices that allow for more specialized services and
15	greater economies of scale; and
16	WHEREAS, this state has been notified of the intention to maintain only three
17	guaranteed loanmaking and servicing centers - one in Fargo, one in Minot, and one in
18	Bismarck; and
19	WHEREAS, this proposed organizational plan must consider the unique demographics
20	of this state to be efficient and practicable for our citizens;
21	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,
22	THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:
23	That the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
24	analyze the operating environment of the Farm Service Agency and ensure that attempts at
25	efficiency recognize customer needs and expectations; and

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- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
- 2 resolution to the Secretary of Agriculture, the chairmen of the Senate and House Agriculture
- 3 Committees, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.