

Fifty-seventh
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 3035**

Introduced by

Representatives Fairfield, Boehm, Kerzman, Lemieux

Senators Bowman, Tomac

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to support efforts to prohibit meatpackers from
2 owning, feeding, or controlling livestock for more than 14 days before slaughter and to amend
3 the federal Packers and Stockyards Act to accomplish this goal.

4 **WHEREAS**, the top four firms in steer and heifer slaughter control over 80 percent of
5 the market;

6 **WHEREAS**, this market share evidences more than double the concentration of
7 economic power these entities had just 15 years ago;

8 **WHEREAS**, when four packing firms have such a large share of the market, their
9 individual procurement decisions and practices affect the prices paid to producers;

10 **WHEREAS**, research strongly suggests that significantly depressed market prices have
11 accompanied increases in concentration in regional livestock markets; and

12 **WHEREAS**, competitive, fair, and open livestock markets are fundamental to the
13 economic survival of family farms;

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

16 That the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
17 support efforts to prohibit meatpackers from owning, feeding, or controlling livestock for more
18 than 14 days before slaughter and to amend the federal Packers and Stockyards Act to
19 accomplish this goal; and

20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
21 resolution to the Secretary of Agriculture, the chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture,
22 the chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, and to each
23 member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.