

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4033

Introduced by

Senators Traynor, Dever, Lyson, C. Nelson, Trenbeath, Watne

Judiciary Committee

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the commitment procedures
2 for individuals with mental illness.

3 **WHEREAS**, during the course of any given year, more than 40 million adult Americans
4 are affected by one or more mental disorders and 6.5 million Americans are disabled by severe
5 mental illnesses; and

6 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota Century Code Chapter 25-03.1, enacted in 1977, provides
7 the procedures for the voluntary and involuntary commitment of individuals with mental illness;
8 and

9 **WHEREAS**, involuntary commitment to a treatment facility raises constitutional issues
10 regarding the deprivation of an individual's constitutionally protected liberty interests; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Council has not conducted a comprehensive study of the
12 commitment procedures for individuals with mental illness since the 1975-76 interim;

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

15 That the Legislative Council study the commitment procedures for individuals with
16 mental illness; and

17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
18 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
19 the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly.