

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4043

Introduced by

Senators Krauter, Kroeplin

Representatives Froelich, Kerzman, Nicholas

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the feasibility and desirability
2 of promoting carbon sequestration programs in this state.

3 **WHEREAS**, industrial pollution, primarily from the release of carbon dioxide from the
4 burning of coal and petroleum products, is increasing, thus causing worldwide temperatures to
5 rise; and

6 **WHEREAS**, unless carbon dioxide and other so-called greenhouse gases are reduced,
7 global weather changes may trigger droughts and floods; and

8 **WHEREAS**, many plants absorb carbon dioxide and deposit, sequester, or sink carbon
9 into the soil, thus removing it from the atmosphere; and

10 **WHEREAS**, carbon dioxide producing industries may be willing to pay farmers and
11 ranchers to plant crops and use land-management practices that will sequester carbon on their
12 land; and

13 **WHEREAS**, recently 400 farmers in Iowa were paid \$8 million for storing carbon; and

14 **WHEREAS**, it has been estimated that South Dakota farmers could receive \$20 to \$30
15 an acre for cultivated land and three to five dollars an acre for rangeland for capturing or
16 sequestering carbon on their land; and

17 **WHEREAS**, carbon sequestration may provide a much-needed source of additional
18 income for this state's farmers and ranchers;

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

21 That the Legislative Council study the feasibility and desirability of promoting carbon
22 sequestration programs in this state; and

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