

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3062

Introduced by

Representative Sandvig

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study vulnerable adult abuse and
2 neglect with an emphasis on whether certain individuals should be required to report suspected
3 incidents of vulnerable adult abuse and neglect.

4 **WHEREAS**, adults with a substantial mental or functional impairment may be so
5 vulnerable that they may not be able to protect themselves and may become targets of abuse,
6 neglect, or exploitation; and

7 **WHEREAS**, adult abuse can happen in a variety of settings and in a variety of ways,
8 including physical, emotional, financial, sexual, or be related to neglect; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the adult protective services program within the Department of Human
10 Services provides protective services to vulnerable adults; and

11 **WHEREAS**, while North Dakota law requires certain individuals to report suspected
12 child abuse and neglect, North Dakota Century Code Section 50-25.2-03 merely provides that
13 an individual who suspects that a vulnerable adult is being abused or neglected may report the
14 information to the Department of Human Services or an appropriate law enforcement agency;
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, requiring certain individuals to report suspected abuse or neglect may help
17 reduce the incidents of abuse and neglect among vulnerable adults;

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

20 That the Legislative Council study vulnerable adult abuse and neglect with an emphasis
21 on whether certain individuals should be required to report suspected incidents of vulnerable
22 adult abuse and neglect; 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-ninth Legislative Assembly.