

Fifty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 3047

Introduced by

Representatives Solberg, Drovdal, Norland

Senator Andrist

1 A concurrent resolution urging the State Historical Society of North Dakota to rethink and
2 amend the proposed unmarketable name of the state visitor center at the confluence of the
3 Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers.

4 **WHEREAS**, the people of Williams, Divide, and McKenzie Counties have supported
5 and invested in the historic reconstruction and interpretation of Fort Union Trading Post
6 National Historic Site and Fort Buford Army Post State Historic Site continuously since 1984;
7 and

8 **WHEREAS**, the economic benefit of heritage tourism is generally accepted to be one of
9 the big three elements of North Dakota's income, along with agriculture and energy; and

10 **WHEREAS**, historic accuracy and successful marketing is required to capture the
11 attention of the increased tourist trade to be gained from the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial just
12 commenced at Jefferson's Monticello; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the people of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence area, and the members
14 of the Yellowstone-Missouri Confluence Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage
15 Foundation, Inc., Williston, have repeatedly voted and expressed their distaste and
16 dissatisfaction for the name put upon them by the State Historical Society of North Dakota of
17 "Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center", which will not readily fit on a sign or a
18 brochure, or be used in advertising or common speech; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the first documented major geographic feature Lewis and Clark discovered
20 after they ventured out of the safety of the known world at the Mandan villages was the
21 sought-after Yellowstone River; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the late Senator Frank Wenstrom and all the legislative assemblies since
23 1959 have endorsed and supported the Yellowstone-Missouri-Fort Union Commission as an
24 agency of state government to grow the historic tourism industry in the Confluence area;

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

3 That the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges and directs the State Historical Society
4 of North Dakota to allow the people of northwest North Dakota to name the visitor center they
5 both support and depend upon as part of their economic future as the Yellowstone-Missouri
6 Discovery Center; and

7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
8 resolution to the Governor, Superintendent of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, and
9 to each member of the board of directors of the State Historical Society of North Dakota.