

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4004

Introduced by

Senators Krauter, Erbele, Fairfield

Representatives Froelich, Kerzman

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to enact a comprehensive emergency disaster aid
2 package for crop and livestock producers who suffered economic losses as a result of
3 weather-related disasters in 2001 and 2002.

4 **WHEREAS**, in 2001, 40 percent of all counties in this nation received disaster
5 declarations from the United States Secretary of Agriculture; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in 2002, 90 percent of all counties in this nation received disaster
7 declarations from the United States Secretary of Agriculture; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the natural disasters of 2002 proved to be as devastating as the drought of
9 the 1930s; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the natural disasters of 2002 are expected to extend into 2003 and result in
11 further reductions in pasture, hay production, crop production, and livestock conception rates;
12 and

13 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota State University has estimated that North Dakota producers
14 incurred \$168 million in net crop losses and \$55 million in direct livestock losses due to drought
15 conditions in 2002; and

16 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota State University has estimated that this state has incurred
17 more than \$866 million in direct and indirect economic losses due to drought conditions in 2002;
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, the 2002 farm bill was intended to reduce or eliminate the need for
20 market-related ad hoc assistance, but the legislation lacks adequate mechanism for addressing
21 the widespread economic devastation created by natural disasters; and

22 **WHEREAS**, passing a comprehensive emergency disaster aid package for crop and
23 livestock producers will help to alleviate severe long-term economic impacts on producers, rural
24 communities, and the state at large;

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

3 That the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges Congress to enact a comprehensive
4 emergency disaster aid package for crop and livestock producers who suffered economic
5 losses as a result of weather-related disasters in 2001 and 2002; and

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
7 resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Department
8 of Agriculture, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.