

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3055**

Introduced by

Representatives Mueller, DeKrey, Gulleson, Herbel, Kreidt

Senator Urlacher

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the patterns of migration from  
2 rural to urban areas experienced by this state and by other Midwestern states and explore  
3 various opportunities for revitalizing and strengthening rural communities, including new  
4 initiatives and reforms of existing policies, so that our rural communities can attract and be  
5 home to citizens of all ages.

6 **WHEREAS**, our state's population continues to leave the rural areas in favor of urban  
7 areas; and

8 **WHEREAS**, 36.9 percent of this state's population now resides in the easternmost  
9 counties--those that border the Red River--and one out of every five North Dakotans now  
10 resides in Cass County; and

11 **WHEREAS**, during the 1990s, only six of this state's 53 counties showed any growth in  
12 population and only Benson, Burleigh, Cass, Rolette, and Sioux Counties showed any increase  
13 in children under age 18; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in order to stem the tide of migration from the rural areas of this state and  
15 create a viable future for rural communities, consideration must be given to making critical  
16 investments in rural community development; and

17 **WHEREAS**, agriculture alone cannot revitalize rural communities and nonfarm  
18 strategies for small business development must also be explored;

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

21 That the Legislative Council study the patterns of migration from rural to urban areas  
22 experienced by this state and by other Midwestern states and explore various opportunities for  
23 revitalizing and strengthening rural communities, including new initiatives and reforms of  
24 existing policies, so that our rural communities can attract and be home to citizens of all ages;  
25 and

- 1           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
- 2   recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
- 3   the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly.