

**Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2003**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3024
(Representatives Warnke, Brusegaard, Delmore, N. Johnson)
(Senators Bowman, Lindaas)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a regional school of veterinary medicine and providing preference for North Dakota resident students who specialize in food animal clinical studies at the out-of-state veterinary schools participating in the professional student exchange program within the North Dakota University System budget.

WHEREAS, veterinarians have played and will need to continue playing a vital role in the livestock industry, in caring for nondomesticated animals, and in caring for the companion animals of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, there is a recognized shortage of food animal veterinarians to serve the livestock industry in rural North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of North Dakota citizens to ensure that there are ample numbers of highly qualified veterinarians able and willing to provide medical services to all animals for which the citizens of North Dakota are directly or indirectly responsible; and

WHEREAS, there are presently only 27 veterinary medical colleges in the United States; and

WHEREAS, if North Dakota students wish to pursue careers in veterinary medicine, they must do so at out-of-state institutions such as Colorado State University, Iowa State University, Kansas State University, Oregon State University, Washington State University, the University of Minnesota, and the University of California - Davis; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota students who graduate from schools of veterinary medicine in other states are faced with significant debt repayment obligations and often find that those states offer better employment and specialization opportunities, as well as higher salary levels than those that could be achieved in food animal veterinary practice in North Dakota;

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

That the Legislative Council study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a regional school of veterinary medicine and providing preference for North Dakota resident students who specialize in food animal clinical studies at the out-of-state veterinary schools participating in the professional exchange grant program within the North Dakota University System budget; and

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

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2003,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State