

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3047
(Representatives Metcalf, Damschen, Mueller, Pollert, Uglem)
(Senator Lyson)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study sentencing alternatives with an emphasis on the expanded use of rehabilitation over incarceration, the provision of more treatment options, and the adequate funding of treatment programs.

WHEREAS, during the 2001-03 biennium, the state's inmate population increased 9.5 percent and reached an all-time high of 1,299 inmates in September 2004; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 drug crimes surpassed property crimes as the largest category of crimes for which offenders were incarcerated in the state's corrections system; and

WHEREAS, the increasing use and manufacture of methamphetamine by state residents has resulted in drug offenders being the fastest-growing segment of the state's inmate population for the third straight biennium; and

WHEREAS, recent developments in criminal justice indicate the emergence of a national movement in favor of treating, rather than incarcerating, nonviolent drug possession offenders; and

WHEREAS, these developments include drug courts, local policies that favor treatment, and statewide initiatives that divert nonviolent drug offenders to treatment instead of incarceration;

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

That the Legislative Council study sentencing alternatives with an emphasis on the expanded use of rehabilitation over incarceration, the provision of more treatment options, and the adequate funding of treatment programs; 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 Sixtieth 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 _____, 2005,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State