

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4028

Introduced by

Senators Krauter, Erbele

Representatives Kerzman, Nicholas

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to support mandatory country of origin labeling for all
2 agricultural commodities.

3 **WHEREAS**, on May 13, 2002, President Bush signed into law the Farm Security and
4 Rural Investment Act of 2002, which required country of origin labeling for beef, lamb, pork, fish,
5 perishable agricultural commodities, and peanuts; and

6 **WHEREAS**, on January 27, 2004, President Bush signed Public Law 108-199, which
7 delays the implementation of mandatory country of origin labeling for all covered commodities
8 except wild and farm-raised fish and shellfish, until September 30, 2006; and

9 **WHEREAS**, responsibility for implementation of the country of origin labeling program
10 rests with the Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture;
11 and

12 **WHEREAS**, since 1999 North Dakota has required retailers to indicate by label the
13 country of origin of fresh beef, lamb, and pork; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Florida, Kansas, Maine, South Dakota, and Wyoming all require some form
15 of mandatory country of origin labeling; and

16 **WHEREAS**, country of origin labeling can provide consumers with valuable information
17 about the source of their food; and

18 **WHEREAS**, while processors and packers have been unwilling to participate in
19 mandatory country of origin labeling, consumers have shown overwhelming support for country
20 of origin labeling, as well as the willingness to pay extra for such information;

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

23 That the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
24 make country of origin labeling mandatory for all agricultural commodities; and

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