

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3030

Introduced by

Representatives Boucher, Gulleson, Mueller

Senators Every, Heitkamp, O'Connell

1 A concurrent resolution urging the President and Congress to maintain the stability of the
2 federal Social Security system and to forego any effort to privatize any aspect of the federal
3 Social Security system.

4 **WHEREAS**, when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed legislation creating the
5 federal Social Security system in 1935, one-half of this country's senior citizens were living in
6 poverty; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the United States has managed to reduce that figure to less than
8 10 percent; and

9 **WHEREAS**, President Bush is proposing major changes to the federal Social Security
10 system; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the federal Social Security system is an insurance program that provides a
12 foundation of economic security to all who work and contribute to society; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the solid foundation of the federal Social Security system and riskier
14 investments in private accounts form a multilayered retirement plan that strikes a sensible
15 balance between risk and return; and

16 **WHEREAS**, to ensure the long-term viability of the Social Security system, the
17 President and Congress can and should make some adjustments to improve its operation while
18 preserving its essential character as the foundation of America's retirement system; and

19 **WHEREAS**, every year the Social Security system collects considerably more money in
20 Social Security taxes than it pays in benefits, with a surplus of \$151 billion as of last year; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the Social Security system trustees predict that if our economy remains
22 healthy, Social Security benefits will be fully financed for all living generations; and

23 **WHEREAS**, despite the fact that Congress is diverting Social Security funds for
24 non-Social Security uses, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projects that the
25 program still has enough resources to remain solvent until the year 2052; and

1 **WHEREAS**, minor adjustments can keep the system running smoothly for a long time to
2 come; and

3 **WHEREAS**, a retirement system without a stable foundation cannot reasonably be
4 described as secure; and

5 **WHEREAS**, by exercising the best of these options, the United States will not only meet
6 its moral commitment to protect seniors from poverty, it will make it safe for people to keep
7 investing in existing forms of private accounts, secure in the knowledge that Social Security will
8 be there no matter what;

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

11 That the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly urges the President of the United States and
12 Congress to maintain the stability of the federal Social Security system and to forego any effort
13 to privatize any aspect of the federal Social Security system; and

14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
15 resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
16 the President of the United States Senate, the majority and minority leaders of the United
17 States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the
18 North Dakota Congressional Delegation.