

Introduced by

Representatives Klein, Berg, Boucher

Senators Stenehjem, O'Connell

(Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

1 A concurrent resolution urging the Department of Defense to use North Dakota for the
2 Department of Defense's air space and special forces ground training initiatives.

3 **WHEREAS**, future special operations forces will require space with existing
4 infrastructure and industry, with varying terrain and climates to train new nonstandard
5 operations forces, develop and test new doctrines and tactics, and rehearse real-world
6 scenarios; and

7 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota has the available towns and cities to train military operations
8 on urban terrain, open remote land, and the infrastructure and industry access for targeting and
9 securing; and

10 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota has low ongoing infrastructure or rental costs and a diverse
11 industry base with no encroachment issues now or in the foreseeable future; and

12 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota's geography allows for real combat zone dimensions to
13 facilitate "train as we fight" in the air and on the ground; and

14 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota has diverse terrain and four distinct seasons that allow for
15 the replication of similar terrain and weather conditions of unstable regions of the world; and

16 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota can provide the United States military with the nation's
17 largest overland air and ground training space which will allow for synchronized joint operations
18 training; and

19 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota has a thriving commercial and private air service industry
20 that could be beneficial to assisting in this initiative and the state pledges to work cooperatively
21 to ensure all military, private, and public air service needs are met; and

22 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota has five major Native American reservations for potential
23 training with diverse cultures and native language challenges; and

24 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota has supportive political subdivisions and supportive populace
25 with the highest per capita membership of United States military in the United States; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly and Governor strongly support this initiative and,
2 by this resolution, demonstrate to the Department of Defense their commitment and ongoing
3 support;

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

6 That the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly urges the Department of Defense to use North
7 Dakota for the Department of Defense's air space and special forces ground training initiatives;
8 and

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
10 resolution to the Secretary of Defense, the President of the United States, and to each member
11 of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.