

Sixtieth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3051

Introduced by

Representatives Kretschmar, Brandenburg

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the procedures through which
2 members of the Legislative Assembly are elected.

3 **WHEREAS**, before the amendment of the Constitution of North Dakota in 1996, the
4 term of office of members of the House of Representatives was two years, and therefore, an
5 election for members of the Legislative Assembly was held in each legislative district during
6 each general election; and

7 **WHEREAS**, beginning with the 1998 general election, senators and representatives
8 have been elected for four-year terms, staggered so that all members of the Legislative
9 Assembly from each legislative district are elected at the same general election; and

10 **WHEREAS**, as a result of the current method of staggering terms, elections for
11 legislative offices are held only once every four years in each legislative district; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the lack of legislative elections in approximately one-half of the legislative
13 districts in nonpresidential election years may be a factor contributing to a significant decline in
14 voter turnout for elections in North Dakota during nonpresidential election years;

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

17 That the Legislative Council study the procedures through which members of the
18 Legislative Assembly are elected; and

19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
20 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
21 the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly.