

**Sixtieth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Wednesday, January 3, 2007**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4019
(Senators Dever, Fischer, J. Lee)
(Representatives Kreidt, Porter, Weisz)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to reauthorize the state children's health insurance program.

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly regards the health of the children in this state to be of paramount importance to families in this state; and

WHEREAS, poor health of children is a threat to the educational achievement and the social and psychological well-being of the children of this state; and

WHEREAS, protecting the health of the children in this state is essential to the well-being of our youngest citizens and the quality of life in this state; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly considers Healthy Steps, the North Dakota children's health insurance program under North Dakota Century Code Chapter 50-29, which has enrolled uninsured children since the program's inception, to be an integral part of the arrangements for health benefits for the children of this state; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly recognizes the value of the state children's health insurance program in preserving child wellness, preventing and treating childhood diseases, improving health outcomes, and reducing overall health costs; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly considers the federal funding available for the state children's health insurance program to be indispensable to providing health benefits for children of modest means;

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

That the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to reauthorize the state children's health insurance program under Title XXI of the federal Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.], to assure continued federal funding for Healthy Steps--North Dakota's state children's health insurance program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Assembly urges the Governor of North Dakota to work with the members of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation to ensure state children's health insurance program is reauthorized in a timely manner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Assembly urges all applicable components of North Dakota state government to work together with educators, health care providers, social workers, and parents to ensure that all available public and private assistance for providing health benefits to uninsured children in this state be used to the maximum extent possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Assembly urges the Governor to use his best efforts to continue to provide meaningful assistance to help identify and enroll children who qualify for the state children's health insurance program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Governor, the director of the Department of Human Services, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the executive director of the Board of Nursing, the executive director of the State Board of Medical Examiners, the board administrator of the Board of Social Work Examiners, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2007,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State