

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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4015
(Senators Klein, Erbele, Urlacher)
(Representatives Brandenburg, Weisz)

A concurrent resolution urging the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture to restore full funding to the Conservation Security Program, address and resolve problems in the administration of the program, and to compensate individual farmers for damages incurred which were caused by a lack of clarity in the general provisions of the program and how these provisions were communicated to participants.

WHEREAS, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 amended the Food Security Act of 1985 to authorize the Conservation Security Program; and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Security Program is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service; and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Security Program is a voluntary program designed to provide financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on tribal and private working lands; and

WHEREAS, the program is designed to provide equitable access to benefits to all producers, regardless of size of operation, crops produced, or geographic location; and

WHEREAS, the program is being poorly administered with Conservation Security Program participants receiving inaccurate and conflicting information concerning the program; and

WHEREAS, participants have been harmed by decisions made in reliance on commitments made by administrators of the program;

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

That the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly urge the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture to restore full funding to the Conservation Security Program, to address and resolve problems in the administration of the program, and to compensate individual farmers for damages incurred which were caused by a lack of clarity in the general provisions of the program and how these provisions were communicated to participants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, and to 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