Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4019

Introduced by

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Senators Wanzek, Taylor

Representatives Brandenburg, Froelich

- A concurrent resolution urging Congress to examine carefully the known and potential impacts
   of implementing a national animal identification system.
- WHEREAS, to protect the health of United States livestock and poultry and the
  economic well-being of those industries, it is imperative that an animal disease be traced to its
  source quickly and effectively; and
  - **WHEREAS**, when a disease outbreak occurs, animal health officials need to know which animals are involved in the outbreak, where the infected animals are located, and what other animals might have been exposed to the disease; and
  - WHEREAS, a rapid disease response means fewer affected producers, less economic loss, greater preservation of marketability, and increases in markets at home and abroad; and
  - **WHEREAS**, the national animal identification system is an information system intended to help producers and animal health officials respond quickly and effectively to animal disease events in the United States; and
  - WHEREAS, concerns still exist regarding the effect that a national animal identification system will have on small producers, whether it will impinge upon individual rights and privacy, whether it will increase the cost of meat, whether it will truly make food safer, and whether it will create a large government bureaucracy;

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

That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States and the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture to examine carefully the known and potential impacts that implementation of a national animal identification system will have on producers of all sizes, on the livestock industry, and on consumers domestically and internationally and to encourage voluntary participation and undertake further development of

Sixty-first Legislative Assembly

- 1 the system only after assurances exist that the concerns are either without foundation or
- 2 significantly outweighed by the system's benefits; and
- 3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
- 4 resolution to the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and to each member
- 5 of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.