

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

Introduced by

Representatives Kempenich, Froelich

Senators Erbele, Taylor

1 A concurrent resolution urging the United States Fish and Wildlife Service not to list the
2 black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, as a threatened or endangered species under
3 the Endangered Species Act.

4 **WHEREAS**, in 2007 the Forest Guardians (also known as WildEarth Guardians),
5 Biodiversity Conservation Alliance, Center for Native Ecosystems, and Rocky Mountain Animal
6 Defense filed a petition with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service requesting that the
7 black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, be listed as a threatened or endangered
8 species under the Endangered Species Act; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the petition filed with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service requested
10 that the black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, be listed as endangered throughout its
11 range, which includes Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North
12 Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has initiated a status review of
14 the species to determine if the listing is warranted; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department has submitted its prairie dog
16 management plan to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and restated the department's
17 belief that this state's black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, population is biologically
18 viable; and

19 **WHEREAS**, large concentrations of prairie dog populations cause widespread crop
20 destruction, compete with livestock for the same grazing areas, and create hazardous
21 conditions for livestock;

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

1 That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly urges the United States Fish and Wildlife
2 Service not to list the black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, as a threatened or
3 endangered species under the Endangered Species Act; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
5 resolution to the regional director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the director of
6 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Secretary of the Interior, and to each member
7 of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.