

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.

Introduced by

Representative Porter

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to amend federal law to allow North Dakota resident
2 sharp shooters to take elk within Theodore Roosevelt National Park to assist the National Park
3 Service in reducing the excess elk in the park and managing the elk population.

4 **WHEREAS**, Theodore Roosevelt National Park had released a draft elk management
5 plan/environmental impact statement; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the draft plan/environmental impact statement analyzes four action
7 alternatives for initial herd reduction, as well as a no action alternative, and one alternative that
8 could be used in combination with others for elk herd maintenance; and

9 **WHEREAS**, one alternative for initial herd reduction focuses on sharp shooting elk,
10 using government employees, contractors, or skilled volunteers; and

11 **WHEREAS**, hunting within the park boundaries is not currently allowed under federal
12 law; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the elk population of Theodore Roosevelt National Park must be reduced to
14 manageable levels to sustain a healthy population of elk in the park and to reduce the
15 possibility of chronic wasting disease entering the parks elk population; and

16 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota sportsman have the hunting tradition, expertise, and ethics to
17 assist the National Park Service in this effort; and

18 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota sharp shooters should be chosen by a lottery system and be
19 entitled to keep any animal the sharp shooter takes; and

20 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota is opposed to the action alternatives identified in the draft
21 plans/environmental impact statement released by Theodore Roosevelt National Park;

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

24 That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
25 allow North Dakota resident sharp shooters to take elk within Theodore Roosevelt National

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1 Park to assist the National Park Service in reducing the excess elk in the park and managing
2 the elk population; and

3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
4 resolution by registered mail, return receipt requested, to the Secretary of the Interior, the
5 director of the National Park Service, the superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park,
6 and each member of the North Dakota Congressional delegation.