

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3045

Introduced by

Representatives Drovdal, Kempenich, Nottestad, Pinkerton

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study severed and abandoned
2 mineral rights.

3 **WHEREAS**, a quarter section of land may have hundreds of individuals with severed
4 mineral rights in relation to that quarter; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the surface owner may not own any or all of the severed mineral rights, but
6 is burdened entirely with the development of those rights; and

7 **WHEREAS**, it is often extremely difficult to determine who owns severed mineral rights
8 in this state, whether the owners are governmental entities, residents, or nonresidents who may
9 or may not actively manage the mineral interests; and

10 **WHEREAS**, there are procedures for the termination of mineral interests in North
11 Dakota Century Code Chapter 38-18.1 that should be reviewed to determine if the statutory
12 provisions are meeting the needs of the people of this state and if issues and abuses have
13 arisen due to the increased oil and gas activity in this state;

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

16 That the Legislative Council study severed and abandoned mineral rights; and

17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
18 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
19 the Sixty-second Legislative Assembly.