

**Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2009**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3028
(Representative Belter)
(Senator Wanzek)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to support the responsible use of the beneficial qualities of biotechnology such as pharmaceuticals, anti-immune disease control, biodegradable plastics, and other potential benefits to people and the global environment through high-yield agricultural production.

WHEREAS, biotechnology refers to any technique that uses living organisms or parts thereof to make or modify a product or plants, animals, or micro-organisms for specific uses and has been used by humankind for thousands of years to improve plants, animals, and micro-organisms; and

WHEREAS, in the last three decades scientific advances in molecular biology have resulted in what is known as recombinant DNA technology or "genetic engineering" with the ability to readily move genetic material between more distantly related organisms; and

WHEREAS, pest-resistant and disease-resistant crops developed through biotechnology will preserve and improve the environment by reducing the need for herbicides and pesticides; and

WHEREAS, modern biotechnology is being used to increase the productivity of crops and livestock, to improve the quality of life by developing new high-yield crops that require fewer inputs and conserve natural resources, to increase the food supply for a rapidly increasing human population, to produce more nutritious foods with longer shelf lives, and to continue to provide consumers with high-quality, low-cost food products; and

WHEREAS, further advances in modern biotechnology may result in improved crops that combat vitamin and mineral deficiencies that afflict hundreds of millions of people worldwide or that can be used to produce life-saving vaccines and biodegradable plastics; and

WHEREAS, federal law requires that all foods and food ingredients, whether produced by traditional or modern biotechnology, must be extensively reviewed for safety by the United States Food and Drug Administration and meet the provisions of the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act before these products may be sold to consumers;

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

That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to support the responsible use of the beneficial qualities of biotechnology such as pharmaceuticals, anti-immune disease control, biodegradable plastics, and other potential benefits to people and the global environment through high-yield agricultural production; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Senate and House Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2009,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State