

**Sixty-second Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2011**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4020
(Senator Robinson)**

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to study the causes of increases in Department of Human Services caseloads and program utilization and the impact of federal health care reform.

WHEREAS, the 2009 Legislative Assembly provided a total general fund appropriation for the Department of Human Services of \$652.2 million, which is \$58.3 million, or 9.8 percent, more than the legislative appropriation for the 2007-09 biennium; and

WHEREAS, the 2011-13 executive budget provides a total general fund appropriation for the Department of Human Services of \$927.4 million, which is \$275.2 million, or 42.2 percent, more than the legislative appropriation for the 2009-11 biennium; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services is experiencing increases in caseloads and program utilization, including an increase in the number of Medicaid eligibles from 53,644 in December 2008 to 63,473 in November 2010; and

WHEREAS, the state of North Dakota is experiencing low unemployment, increases in personal income, and a strong economy; and

WHEREAS, the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will increase the future expenditures of the Department of Human Services beyond the control of the state of North Dakota;

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

That the Legislative Management study the causes of the increases in the Department of Human Services caseloads and program utilization and the impact of federal health care reform; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Management report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the Sixty-third Legislative Assembly.