

Introduced by

Senators Stenehjem, Christmann, Sitte

Representatives Carlson, Delzer, Pollert

1 A concurrent resolution urging the leaders of both parties in Congress to meet with the
2 President at a summit and, using the President's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility
3 and Reform report as a starting point, to negotiate a bipartisan comprehensive fiscal
4 responsibility package that can be enacted this year.

5 **WHEREAS**, the total debt of the United States government is \$14.2 trillion, over \$45,000 for
6 every person in the nation; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the annual federal deficit is anticipated to be \$1.56 trillion in fiscal year 2012;
8 and

9 **WHEREAS**, interest payments on America's debt are now 15 percent on non-Social
10 Security federal revenues; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the federal budget cannot be balanced merely by cuts because if all
12 nonmandatory spending, including defense and Medicare, were cut by 20 percent there would
13 still be a deficit of \$1.1 trillion; and if all discretionary programs, excluding defense and
14 Medicare and Medicaid, were totally eliminated there would still be an annual budget deficit of
15 \$800 billion; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the federal budget cannot be balanced merely by tax increases because even
17 if all non-Social Security revenues were increased by 30 percent, there would still be a deficit of
18 \$1 trillion; and

19 **WHEREAS**, long-term continuation of these levels of deficit and debt threaten the strength
20 of our nation and the well-being of its people; and

21 **WHEREAS**, it is impossible to manage this fiscal crisis without a comprehensive balanced
22 approach of shared sacrifice--a fiscal responsibility package that includes spending decreases,
23 tax increases, closing of tax loopholes, and decreases in incentives to already profitable
24 corporations;

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

3 That the Sixty-second Legislative Assembly urges the leaders of both parties in Congress to
4 meet with the President at a summit and, using the President's National Commission on Fiscal
5 Responsibility and Reform report as a starting point, to negotiate a bipartisan comprehensive
6 fiscal responsibility package that can be enacted this year; and

7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Assembly urges Congress to approve a
8 constitutional amendment requiring the President to deliver annually and the Congress to adopt
9 a 10-year debt reduction plan; and

10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
11 to the President and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.