

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4015

Introduced by

Senators Mathern, Dever

Representatives Kretschmar, Metcalf

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress and the President to pursue peace in Iraq and
2 Afghanistan and disengage American combat forces from duty in these countries.

3 **WHEREAS**, the goals of the United States in the foreign wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have
4 been to reduce terrorist activity directed at the United States and to create a peaceful
5 environment for the citizens of those countries; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are now the longest wars in the United States
7 history; and

8 **WHEREAS**, American forces on duty in Iraq and Afghanistan have served bravely in the
9 midst of the continued civil disorder in Iraq and the sectarian war in Afghanistan, and merit the
10 respect and support of all people; and

11 **WHEREAS**, now over 1 million American families have had a family member serve in these
12 overseas wars, and more than 4,000 Americans have died in these wars, without any
13 appreciable increase in security from terrorism, and with only limited advancement toward the
14 goal of security for the citizens of those countries; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the continued cost of these wars in both the lives and health of American
16 forces and civilians and the cost to the United States government and our citizens of more than
17 \$10 billion per month cannot be sustained indefinitely and is causing great harm to the social
18 and economic structure of the United States; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the deaths of civilians in these countries killed by attacks from both insurgents
20 and allied military operations harm efforts to decrease terrorist activities and to promote
21 peaceful conditions in those countries by continuing to be used as a tool for terrorist recruitment
22 and by creating fear and uncertainty for the civilian populations of those countries; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the efforts of nongovernmental organizations to bring community-based health,
24 education, and economic development to Afghanistan and Pakistan, such as those of the
25 Central Asian Institute, Afghanistan Samsortya--establishing nurseries and replanting orchards

1 in Afghanistan, Women for Afghan Women--providing advocacy and assistance to survivors of
2 personal violence in Afghanistan, The Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq--working to
3 end violence against women in Iraq, and many others promote peace and the interests of
4 United States and its allies far more effectively than military operations in those countries and
5 should be supported;

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

8 That the Sixty-second Legislative Assembly urges Congress and the President to
9 immediately halt offensive military action and pursue peace in Iraq and Afghanistan without the
10 use of United States military forces and to disengage and safely withdraw American forces from
11 those countries at the earliest opportunity and to instead support, through an appropriate
12 expenditure of funds, peaceful, nonmilitary methods for decreasing the global risk of terrorist
13 activities and to specifically expend funds to improve the lives of the people of Iraq and
14 Afghanistan using nonviolent, peaceful methods; and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
16 to the President of the United States and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional
17 Delegation.