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January 25, 2021

TO: Chairman Klemin and Members of the House Judiciary Committee
FR: Jim Silrum, Deputy Secretary of State on behalf of Secretary of State Al Jaeger
RE: HCR 3003 – Single subject Constitutional measure requirement

This resolution would ask the voters to amend Section 9 of Article III of the North Dakota Constitution. The amendment, if adopted, would state that initiated constitutional measures would be limited to a single subject. In the past several years, the Secretary of State has been asked to approve for circulation constitutional petitions that have grown in length and scope. It has been a concern as to whether the voters have been able to fully grasp the full extent of the impacts of these constitutional amendments because they have been so long and included so many different topics covered by the measure.

On behalf of the Secretary of State and his election team, I request the committee to vote for a do pass recommendation when you send it to the full membership of the House.