25.3041.01001 Title. Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Representative Heinert March 21, 2025

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

Introduced by

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4017

Senators Enget, Hogan, Hogue, Klein, Mathern

1 A concurrent resolution recognizing directing the Legislative Management to consider studying

2 <u>whether</u> pornography <u>asis</u> a public health hazard.

3 **WHEREAS**, each day, countless people are exposed to sexually explicit content through a 4 wide range of media, and these consumers often are unaware of the health risks posed by such

5 material; and

6 **WHEREAS**, children are encountering pornography before their teens, and this early

7 exposure may lead to low self-esteem and body image disorders and an increased desire to

8 engage in risky sexual behavior; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in addition to promoting unhealthy sexual expectations, the adult entertainment

10 industry produces media that objectifies women and children, as well as depicts rape and

11 abuse; by associating violence with sexual gratification, these materials perpetuate the demand

12 for sex trafficking, prostitution, child pornography, and sexual abuse images; and

13 **WHEREAS**, pornography has been linked to detrimental health effects, including brain

14 development complications, emotional and medical afflictions, the inability to form and maintain

15 intimate relationships, and sexual addiction; these dangers not only affect people on an

16 individual level but also contribute to the degradation of the family unit, frequently leading to

17 marital dissatisfaction and infidelity; and

WHEREAS, the ubiquity of pornography has resulted in a host of societal problems and
potentially negative health effects, and it is of paramount importance that our leaders address
this critical public health issue;

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

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1	That the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly hereby recognizeLegislative Management
2	consider studying whether pornography asis a public health hazard , and recognize the need for

- 3 education, prevention, research, and policy changes to address the harmful influence and
- 4 consequences of pornography; and
- 5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
- 6 to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, the Governor, and the Attorney-
- 7 GeneralLegislative Management report its findings and recommendations, together with any
- 8 legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the Seventieth Legislative Assembly.