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Fifty-fifth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4012

Introduced by

Senator W. Stenehjem

Representative Kretschmar

1 A concurrent resolution for the amendment of section 5 of article V of the Constitution of North

2 Dakota, relating to the election of executive branch officers.

3   **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

4 This amendment provides that one-half of the elected state officials will be chosen by voters in

5 each election year. To start this arrangement, the agriculture commissioner, attorney general,

6 secretary of state, and tax commissioner will be elected for two-year terms in 2000 and

7 thereafter will be elected to four-year terms.

8 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE HOUSE OF**

9   **REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:**

10   That the following proposed amendment to section 5 of article V of the Constitution of

11 North Dakota is agreed to and must be submitted to the qualified electors of North Dakota at

12 the primary election to be held in 1998, in accordance with section 16 of article IV of the

13 Constitution of North Dakota.

14   **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 5 of article V of the Constitution of North Dakota

15 is amended and reenacted as follows:

16   **Section 5.** The qualified electors shall choose the elected state officials at a time

17 designated by the legislative assembly. The elected state officials shall serve until their

18 successors are duly qualified. Terms of office of the elected officials except the public service

19 commissioners are four years, except that the term of the agriculture commissioner, attorney

20 general, secretary of state, and tax commissioner elected in 2000 must be for two years. The

21 terms of the public service commissioners are six years, so arranged that one of them is

22 elected every two years. The terms of the governor and lieutenant governor begin on

23 December fifteenth following their election.

1   If two or more candidates for any executive office other than for governor and lieutenant

2   governor receive an equal and highest number of votes, the legislative assembly in joint

3   session shall choose one of them for the office.