

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3031

Introduced by

Representatives Drovdal, Delmore, Kempenich

Senators Krauter, Urlacher

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the issues of fairness and
2 equity as they relate to child support guidelines and the issuance and enforcement of child
3 custody and visitation orders.

4 **WHEREAS**, approximately 70 percent of the caseload of North Dakota courts involves
5 issues related to family law, including divorce, custody, visitation, and child support as well as
6 modifications to custody, visitation, and child support orders; and

7 **WHEREAS**, every child has a right to be guided, nurtured, and supported emotionally,
8 physically, and financially by both parents regardless of the parents' marital status; and

9 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota law provides that for the purposes of determining custody,
10 there is no presumption as to which parent will better promote the best interests of the child;
11 and

12 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota law provides that each parent has a mutual duty to support a
13 child of the parents; and

14 **WHEREAS**, concerns have been expressed that there are inequities in the enforcement
15 of child custody and visitation orders and in the child support guidelines as they relate to
16 persons who are obligors;

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

19 That the Legislative Council study the issues of fairness and equity as they relate to
20 child support guidelines and the issuance and enforcement of child custody and visitation
21 orders; and

22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
23 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
24 the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly.