Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Monday, the sixth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3031
(Representatives Drovdal, Delmore, Kempenich)
(Senators Krauter, Urlacher)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

_____	_____
Speaker of the House	President of the Senate
_____	_____
Chief Clerk of the House	Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 1997,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

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Secretary of State