Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

## ENGROSSED SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4051

Introduced by

Senators Wanz	ek, Klein,	Solberg
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Representatives Boehm, Nicholas, Severson

(Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

1	A concurrent resolution urging Congress to take any and all measures necessary to guard
2	against the spread of all livestock diseases, including foot and mouth disease and bovine
3	spongiform encephalopathy, and to encourage aggressive efforts on the part of other countries
4	with a view to eradicating these diseases with all possible celerity.
5	WHEREAS, foot and mouth disease is a contagious febrile disease affecting
6	cloven-hooved animals; and
7	WHEREAS, the disease is characterized by a sudden rise in temperature, followed by
8	an eruption of blisters in the mouth, on areas of tender skin such as the udder, and on the feet;
9	and
10	WHEREAS, with this disease, eating becomes difficult and painful, significant weight
11	loss is experienced, significant decrease in milk production is experienced, and lameness
12	generally occurs, as does death among younger animals; and
13	WHEREAS, the United States has experienced nine distinct epizootics, the most
14	serious of which occurred in 1914 which invaded 22 states and the District of Columbia, and
15	the latest of which occurred in California in 1929; and
16	WHEREAS, while considerable progress has been made toward developing an
17	effective vaccine against foot and mouth disease, the cost of vaccinating all susceptible
18	animals remains prohibitive; and
19	WHEREAS, the vaccination of all susceptible animals will not eradicate foot and mouth
20	disease; and
21	WHEREAS, the slaughter of all exposed animals is the only presently effective
22	countermeasure to foot and mouth disease; and
23	WHEREAS, 395 outbreaks of foot and mouth disease have been confirmed in
24	Furgness countries as of March 20, 2001; and

1	WHEREAS, an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the United States would cause
2	billions of dollars worth of losses to farmers and ranchers; and
3	WHEREAS, since 1996, evidence has been increasing for a causal relationship
4	between ongoing outbreaks in European countries of a disease in cattle called bovine
5	spongiform encephalopathy, commonly known as BSE or mad cow disease, and a disease in
6	humans called new variant Cruetzfeldt-Jakob disease; and
7	WHEREAS, bovine spongiform encephalopathy and new variant Cruetzfeldt-Jakob are
8	invariably fatal brain diseases with incubation periods that are measured in years; and
9	WHEREAS, as of November 2000, more than 177,500 cases of bovine spongiform
10	encephalopathy have been confirmed in the United Kingdom; and
11	WHEREAS, this outbreak is believed to have been caused by feeding sheep meat and
12	bone meal to cattle and the outbreak is believed to have been amplified by the feeding of
13	rendered bovine meat and bone meal to calves; and
14	WHEREAS, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States
15	Department of Agriculture has not detected bovine spongiform encephalopathy in the United
16	States, despite active surveillance efforts since May 1990; and
17	WHEREAS, federal, state, and local governmental entities must work with each other
18	and their international counterparts to ensure the continuation of a disease-free food supply,
19	the health of our citizens, and the economic health of our livestock sector; and
20	WHEREAS, federal, state, and local governmental entities must be prepared to address
21	and counter not only the inadvertent spread of foot and mouth disease but also the intentional
22	dissemination of this and similar diseases by individuals or groups that zealously oppose the
23	continuation of the livestock industry;
24	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,
25	THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:
26	That the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
27	take any and all measures necessary to guard against the spread of all livestock diseases,
28	including foot and mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and to encourage
29	aggressive efforts on the part of other countries with a view to eradicating these diseases with
30	all possible celerity; and

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- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
- 2 resolution to the United States Attorney General, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Administrator
- 3 of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the director of the Central Intelligence
- 4 Agency, the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the chairmen of the Senate and
- 5 House Agriculture Committees, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional
- 6 Delegation.