

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3009

Introduced by

Representatives Kempenich, D. Johnson, Froelich

Senators Bowman, Flakoll, Klein

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to provide sufficient emergency natural disaster
2 assistance for farmers and ranchers.

3 **WHEREAS**, natural disasters can take many forms, including drought, excessive
4 moisture, hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, excessive heat, and insect devastation; and

5 **WHEREAS**, natural disasters are a constant threat to America's farmers and ranchers
6 and can severely hurt even the best run agricultural operations; and

7 **WHEREAS**, natural disasters devastated United States agricultural producers in 2001
8 and 2002; and

9 **WHEREAS**, farmers and ranchers need more disaster assistance than is available
10 under current programs to pay all or part of the production costs incurred during the disaster
11 years, to pay essential family living expenses, to reorganize farming and ranching operations,
12 and to refinance certain agricultural debts; and

13 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota state university estimated that North Dakota producers
14 incurred \$168 million in net crop losses and \$55 million in direct livestock losses due to drought
15 conditions in 2002; and

16 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota state university estimated that this state has incurred more
17 than \$866 million in direct and indirect economic losses due to drought conditions in 2002; and

18 **WHEREAS**, passing emergency natural disaster assistance is the single-most important
19 action that the United States Congress can take for farmers, ranchers, and rural communities;

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

22 That the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress to provide sufficient
23 emergency natural disaster assistance for farmers and ranchers; and

- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
- 2 resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Department
- 3 of Agriculture, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.