

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3010

Introduced by

Representatives Gulleeson, Amerman, Drovdal, Kempenich

Senators Bowman, Heitkamp

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to require the United States Department of Agriculture
2 Forest Service to implement a management plan that supports the right of North Dakota
3 ranchers to graze livestock in the national grasslands.

4 **WHEREAS**, 17 national grasslands extend east from the Rocky Mountains to north
5 central Texas and three additional national grasslands extend west from the Rocky Mountains
6 in the Great Basin states of Oregon, California, and Idaho; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the state of North Dakota is home to three national grasslands - the Cedar
8 River National Grassland, the Sheyenne National Grassland, and the Missouri National
9 Grassland; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Cedar River National Grassland consists of 6,700 acres and is shared
11 by North Dakota and South Dakota; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Sheyenne National Grassland consists of 70,180 acres of public land
13 associated with 64,769 acres of privately owned land located in Ransom and Richland Counties
14 and supplies seasonal forage for more than 80 ranching operations; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the Missouri National Grassland, which consists of 1,028,051 acres, is the
16 largest and most northern grassland in the nation and supplies seasonal forage for more than
17 190 ranching operations; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the national grasslands are public lands administered by the United States
19 Department of Agriculture Forest Service; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service is charged with
21 administering almost 4,000,000 acres in a fashion that sustains grassland ecosystems while
22 allowing for the production of various goods and services, and supporting and maintaining rural
23 economies and lifestyles; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the most recent management plan promulgated by the United States
25 Department of Agriculture Forest Service would result in a potential reduction of 25 percent of

1 the available grazing land in this state, thereby resulting in a loss of 99 jobs and a loss of
2 \$1.4 million in income to ranchers;

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

5 That the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
6 require the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service to implement a
7 management plan that supports the right of North Dakota ranchers to graze livestock in the
8 national grasslands; and

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
10 resolution to the President of the United States, the chief of the United States Department of
11 Agriculture Forest Service, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.