

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4019

Introduced by

Senators Dever, Fischer, J. Lee

Representatives Kreidt, Porter, Weisz

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to reauthorize the state children's health insurance
2 program.

3 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly regards the health of the children in this state to
4 be of paramount importance to families in this state; and

5 **WHEREAS**, poor health of children is a threat to the educational achievement and the
6 social and psychological well-being of the children of this state; and

7 **WHEREAS**, protecting the health of the children in this state is essential to the
8 well-being of our youngest citizens and the quality of life in this state; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly considers Healthy Steps, the North Dakota
10 children's health insurance program under North Dakota Century Code Chapter 50-29, which
11 has enrolled uninsured children since the program's inception, to be an integral part of the
12 arrangements for health benefits for the children of this state; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly recognizes the value of the state children's health
14 insurance program in preserving child wellness, preventing and treating childhood diseases,
15 improving health outcomes, and reducing overall health costs; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly considers the federal funding available for the
17 state children's health insurance program to be indispensable to providing health benefits for
18 children of modest means;

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

21 That the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
22 reauthorize the state children's health insurance program under Title XXI of the federal Social
23 Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.], to assure continued federal funding for Healthy
24 Steps--North Dakota's state children's health insurance program; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Assembly urges the Governor of
2 North Dakota to work with the members of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation to
3 ensure state children's health insurance program is reauthorized in a timely manner; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Assembly urges all applicable
5 components of North Dakota state government to work together with educators, health care
6 providers, social workers, and parents to ensure that all available public and private assistance
7 for providing health benefits to uninsured children in this state be used to the maximum extent
8 possible; and

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Assembly urges the Governor to use
10 his best efforts to continue to provide meaningful assistance to help identify and enroll children
11 who qualify for the state children's health insurance program; and

12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
13 resolution to the Governor, the director of the Department of Human Services, the
14 Superintendent of Public Instruction, the executive director of the Board of Nursing, the
15 executive director of the State Board of Medical Examiners, the board administrator of the
16 Board of Social Work Examiners, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional
17 Delegation.