

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4034

Introduced by

Senators Nelson, Fiebiger, Flakoll, Mathern, Pomeroy

(Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

1 A concurrent resolution proclaiming Monday, November 12, 2007, Smith-Lemli-Opitz Syndrome
2 Awareness Day.

3 **WHEREAS**, Smith-Lemli-Opitz Syndrome is an inherited autosomal recessive disorder,
4 which means individuals with the disorder have inherited the defective gene from both parents,
5 preventing individuals from making cholesterol in amounts sufficient for normal growth and
6 development; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the disorder is a metabolic syndrome, which means a cluster of conditions
8 that often occur together, characterized by developmental disabilities, which may include
9 mental retardation, psychomotor and growth retardation, and communication issues; behavioral
10 issues, which may include outbursts and self-abuse; and multiple congenital malformations,
11 which may include organ problems, gastrointestinal problems, low muscle tone, cataracts,
12 photosensitivity, weakened immune system, brittle bones, cleft palate, oral aversions, and
13 hearing problems; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the clinical spectrum for individuals with Smith-Lemli-Opitz Syndrome is
15 wide, ranging from some individuals having remarkably good intellectual functioning and the
16 possibility of a normal lifespan and other individuals having severe developmental problems
17 and a shortened lifespan; and

18 **WHEREAS**, although there are only two known cases in North Dakota,
19 Smith-Lemli-Opitz Syndrome occurs in relatively high frequency in populations of northern and
20 central European background, with as many as 1 in 30 individuals being carriers of the
21 defective gene affecting approximately 1 in 10,000 to 30,000 live births; and

22 **WHEREAS**, although there is no known cure for Smith-Lemli-Opitz Syndrome,
23 treatments such as dietary therapy, feeding tubes, and surgery have been found to relieve
24 some of the symptoms; and

1 **WHEREAS**, early recognition and treatment of individuals with Smith-Lemli-Opitz
2 Syndrome may improve substantially the medical and developmental outcome of these
3 individuals;

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

6 That the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly proclaims Monday, November 12, 2007,
7 Smith-Lemli-Opitz Syndrome Awareness Day.