

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 3007

Introduced by

Representatives Porter, Carlson, Damschen, Hanson

Senators Stenehjem, Hogue

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to amend federal law or policy to implement the North
2 Dakota Game and Fish Department alternative that would allow North Dakota resident
3 sharpshooters to take elk within Theodore Roosevelt National Park to assist the National Park
4 Service in reducing and managing the park's elk population.

5 **WHEREAS**, Theodore Roosevelt National Park has released a Draft Elk Management
6 Plan/Environmental Impact Statement; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the Draft Elk Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement analyzes
8 four action alternatives for initial herd reduction, as well as a no action alternative, and one
9 alternative that could be used in combination with others for elk herd maintenance; and

10 **WHEREAS**, one alternative for initial herd reduction focuses on sharpshooting elk,
11 using government employees, contractors, or skilled volunteers; and

12 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota is opposed to the action alternatives identified in the Draft Elk
13 Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement released by Theodore Roosevelt National
14 Park; and

15 **WHEREAS**, hunting within the park boundaries is not currently allowed; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the elk population of Theodore Roosevelt National Park must be reduced
17 to manageable levels to sustain a healthy population of elk in the park; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department has developed and
19 recommended an alternative that would reduce the elk population in Theodore Roosevelt
20 National Park using certified volunteer sharpshooters; and

21 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota sportsmen have the hunting tradition, expertise, and ethics to
22 assist the National Park Service in this effort; and

23 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota sharpshooters should be chosen by a lottery system and be
24 entitled to keep any animal the sharpshooter takes;

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

3 That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
4 amend federal law or policy to implement the North Dakota Game and Fish Department
5 alternative that would allow North Dakota resident sharpshooters to take elk within Theodore
6 Roosevelt National Park to assist the National Park Service in reducing and managing the
7 park's elk population; and

8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
9 resolution by registered mail, return receipt requested, to the Secretary of the Interior, the
10 director of the National Park Service, the superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park,
11 and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.