

Introduced by

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to study medicolegal death
2 investigation in the state and how current best practices, including authorization, reporting,
3 training, certification, and the use of information technology and toxicology, can improve death
4 investigation systems in the state.

5 **WHEREAS**, the 2013-14 interim Health Services Committee studied funding provided by
6 the state for autopsies and state and county responsibility for the cost of autopsies, including
7 the feasibility and desirability of counties sharing in the cost of autopsies; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the number of forensic autopsies performed in North Dakota has been steadily
9 increasing; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in addition to criminal justice, death investigation plays a role in public and
11 population health; and

12 **WHEREAS**, medicolegal death investigation is complicated by distance and an inadequate
13 supply of medical professionals in rural areas of the state; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the 2013-14 interim Health Services Committee determined additional
15 information was needed regarding recommended improvements to the medicolegal death
16 investigation system in the state;

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE** **OF NORTH**
18 **DAKOTA, THE** **CONCURRING THEREIN:**

19 That the Legislative Management study medicolegal death investigation in the state and
20 how current best practices, including authorization, reporting, training, certification, and the use
21 of information technology and toxicology, can improve death investigation systems in the state;
22 and

23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and
24 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
25 the Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly.