

Introduced by

Representatives S. Kelsh, Hanson, Kempenich

Senator Miller

1 A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact section 7 of article IV of the Constitution of North
2 Dakota, relating to the limitation on biennial legislative session days.

3 **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

4 This measure increases the constitutional limit from eighty days to one hundred twenty days for
5 legislative assembly regular session meeting days during the biennium.

6 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE**
7 **SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:**

8 That the following proposed amendment to section 7 of article IV of the Constitution of
9 North Dakota is agreed to and must be submitted to the qualified electors of North Dakota at the
10 general election to be held in 2014, in accordance with section 16 of article IV of the
11 Constitution of North Dakota.

12 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 7 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota is
13 amended and reenacted as follows:

14 **Section 7.** The terms of members of the legislative assembly begin on the first day of
15 December following their election.

16 The legislative assembly shall meet at the seat of government in the month of December
17 following the election of the members thereof for organizational and orientation purposes as
18 provided by law and shall thereafter recess until twelve noon on the first Tuesday after the third
19 day in January or at such other time as may be prescribed by law but not later than the eleventh
20 day of January.

21 ~~No regular session of the~~The legislative assembly may exceed ~~eighty~~not meet in regular
22 session for more than one hundred twenty natural days during the biennium. The organizational
23 meeting of the legislative assembly may not be counted as part of those ~~eighty~~one hundred
24 twenty natural days, nor may days spent in session at the call of the governor or while engaged
25 in impeachment proceedings, be counted. Days spent in regular session need not be

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1 consecutive, and the legislative assembly may authorize its committees to meet at any time
2 during the biennium. As used in this section, a "natural day" means a period of twenty-four
3 consecutive hours.

4 Neither house may recess nor adjourn for more than three days without consent of the
5 other house.