Sixty-fourth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3060

Introduced by

Representatives Mock, Beadle, Glassheim, Guggisberg, Hawken, Toman

Senators Oban, Warner

A concurrent resolution to create and enact a new section to article XI of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to creation of a state ethics commission.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This measure would require the legislative assembly to establish a state ethics commission to address ethical issues related to legislators and statewide officials and candidates.

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

That the following proposed new section to article XI of the Constitution of North Dakota is agreed to and must be submitted to the qualified electors of North Dakota at the primary election to be held in 2016, in accordance with section 16 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota.

SECTION 1. A new section to article XI of the Constitution of North Dakota is created and enacted as follows:

1. The legislative assembly shall provide by law for the creation of a state ethics commission consisting of five members, one of whom must be appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate, one of whom must be appointed by the speaker of the house, one of whom must be appointed by the governor, one of whom must be appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court, and one of whom must be a citizen member appointed by the other members of the commission. The legislative assembly shall ensure that no more than two members of the commission may be affiliated with the same political party and that regular four-year terms of members are established so not more than two terms expire in any year.
2. An ethics commission created by the legislative assembly must be granted the authority to recommend legislation relating to its authority to address issues concerning the conduct of statewide elected and appointed officers and members of

the legislative assembly, which must include statutory authority to examine campaign conduct, campaign finance, and lobbying activities and laws; initiate investigations of legislators, statewide elected and appointed officers, and candidates for legislative or statewide office; investigate and impose civil penalties for violations of campaign conduct and campaign finance laws, lobbying laws, and violations of other ethical standards; subpoena documents and witnesses to testify under oath; and hire or access nonpartisan staff services.