

PROPOSED CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A concurrent resolution urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to fully fund the biota water treatment plant for the Northwest Area Water Supply (NAWS).

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed, and the President of the United States signed, into law the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program as part of the Flood Control Act of 1944; and,

WHEREAS, the State of North Dakota was promised flood control, 1.2 million acres of irrigation, power, water supply, recreation, fish and wildlife benefits, improved water quality, along with other benefits; and,

WHEREAS, North Dakota gave up hundreds of thousands of prime river bottom acreage to receive these benefits, for which North Dakota only received an authorization for 75,480 acres of irrigation and no water supply to date; and,

WHEREAS, the United States entered into the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 with the nation of Canada, and the Treaty states it is further agreed the waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Congress acknowledged the significant loss to North Dakota and passed the Dakota Water Resources Act of 2000, which includes the Municipal, Rural and Industrial (MR&I) Water Supply Program to compensate North Dakota for the broken promises; and,

WHEREAS, the United States determined NAWS requires a Biota Water Treatment Plant to meet the conditions of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, and construction of the NAWS Biota Water Treatment Plant is a Federal responsibility for which Congress has not appropriated any funds; and,

WHEREAS, North Dakota is using funds from the MR&I Program to construct the NAWS Biota Water Treatment Plant, causing North Dakota to use Federal money received for the losses incurred to be used for a Federal responsibility, further injuring North Dakota.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Sixty-Seventh Legislative Assembly urges the United States Congress to fully fund the NAWS Water Treatment Plant; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, in addition to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.