

Introduced by

Representatives Conmy, Nelson

Senator Hogan

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying strategies to  
2 increase the number of North Dakotans who receive health benefits coverage.

3 **WHEREAS**, the Kaiser Family Foundation reports 2021 data for North Dakota indicates  
4 57.5 percent of North Dakotans received health care benefits through an employer, 7.9 percent  
5 through nongroup coverage, 9.8 percent through Medicaid, 14.4 percent through Medicare, and  
6 2.7 percent through the military, and 7.7 percent were uninsured; and

7 **WHEREAS**, most Americans are covered by employer-sponsored health insurance, making  
8 it difficult to switch jobs because the new job might not offer insurance or might have a less  
9 generous insurance plan or network which results in locking people into their current jobs; and

10 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota is facing a workforce shortage, with an unemployment rate of  
11 approximately 2.3 percent; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the state can strengthen its partnership with private businesses by  
13 investigating innovative opportunities to increase health benefits coverage, helping to draw  
14 workers to North Dakota; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the state can leverage federal funds to increase health benefits coverage for  
16 low-income workers through Medicaid, Medicaid Expansion, and the children's health insurance  
17 program; and

18 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota's natural resources place the state in a unique position to fund  
19 initiatives to increase access to health benefits coverage;

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

22 That the Legislative Management consider studying strategies to increase the number of  
23 North Dakotans who receive health benefits coverage; and

- 1        **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and
- 2        recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
- 3        the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly.