

Written testimony on Engrossed House Concurrent Resolution 3020

Chairman Wobbema and Senate Workforce Development Committee Members

My name is Kevin Herrmann, 300 Fair St. SW, Beulah, ND. I am an independent North Dakota taxpayer.

I am opposed to Engrossed House Concurrent Resolution 3020. This resolution will change the current 80 day regular legislative session in a two year span to 100 days plus a possible extra 20 days. This resolution will make the taxpayers paid more in total salaries and reimbursement in lodging to legislators. What will be the other cost of paying other workers who are not legislators? I can't find the fiscal impact statement attach to this resolution showing the increase cost of adding more days for biennium legislative session. Why the top secret how much more the cost to taxpayer with this resolution?

On page 2, line 4 to line 5, the underline wording "or when called by the legislative management to reconvene to reconsider a veto". How many days would it take to legislate over the veto? Why would the underline wording not count as part of the total 120 days in this resolution? What is the total cost to reconvene for a veto? Where is the fiscal impact statement?

In past legislative sessions, there has been legislative bills relating to having annual sessions splitting the current 80 day legislative session in Article IV but was defeated in past legislative sessions. In the current 2023 legislative session, Engrossed House Bill 1001, section 8 on page 7, has one of the propose study item of the need to hold annual sessions. Unless section 8 of Engrossed House Bill 1001 is amended, there is no need of House Concurrent Resolution 3020.

Now in the 2023 legislative session, legislators are trying to use term limits and the amount of legislative bills introduced the reason for needing this resolution. I see at least 1/3 of legislative bills introduced as wasted time for everyone.

I am asking Senate Workforce Development Committee Members to give
Engrossed House Concurrent Resolution 3020 a DO NOT PASS recommendation.

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