



# North Dakota House of Representatives

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**COMMITTEES:**  
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Good Morning Chairman Longmuir, Vice Chair Fegley, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present House Concurrent Resolution No. 3023, which reaffirms North Dakota's commitment to ensuring that our essential services—education, law enforcement, infrastructure, public health, and now, through my proposed amendment, agricultural programs—remain fully funded and operational, regardless of changes in federal funding allocations.

North Dakota has always prided itself on self-reliance. We are a state built on the hard work of our farmers, ranchers, small business owners, and law enforcement officers who ensure our communities remain safe. But today, we face increasing uncertainty—federal funding decisions in Washington can shift overnight, leaving our state vulnerable. And history has shown us that when these funds are disrupted, it's our rural communities, our agricultural producers, and our law enforcement officers who pay the highest price.

We must take a stand. We must ensure that North Dakota does not become a state dependent on the whims of Congress but rather a state that takes control of its own destiny.

North Dakotans understand the importance of conservative budgeting, responsible spending, and protecting taxpayers from unnecessary burdens. This resolution is not about expanding government—it's about ensuring that the government we have functions effectively, even in times of financial instability.

For decades, North Dakota has benefited from federal support in areas like transportation, law enforcement grants, education, and farm relief programs. But we cannot assume that these dollars will always flow as they have in the past. If Washington fails to uphold its commitments, do we simply let our law enforcement agencies struggle? Do we allow our schools to fall behind? Do we leave our farmers and ranchers without the support they need to feed America?

Absolutely not. The strength of North Dakota lies in our ability to stand on our own two feet. This resolution sends a clear message: we will prioritize state-level planning, ensuring that our essential services remain intact, no matter what happens at the federal level.

I am asking for this committee's support in amending this resolution to specifically include agricultural programs. Agriculture is the backbone of North Dakota. It fuels our economy, feeds our families, and sustains our way of life. But our farmers and ranchers are facing increasing challenges—from rising input costs to unpredictable market conditions and federal regulations that do not always reflect the realities of life on the plains.

When federal disaster relief or farm support payments are delayed—or worse, cut entirely—our agricultural producers are left without a safety net. We cannot afford to let bureaucratic indecision in Washington dictate the survival of North Dakota's most vital industry.

By including agricultural programs in this resolution, we affirm our commitment to protecting the very people who put food on our tables. It is not just about supporting an industry—it is about securing North Dakota's economic future.

This resolution is a call to action. It urges our state agencies to assess potential financial risks from federal funding disruptions and develop proactive solutions. It encourages engagement with our federal partners to restore funding where necessary. Most importantly, it reinforces our commitment to collaboration—whether with local governments, our tribal nations, or the hardworking people who make North Dakota what it is today.

I ask for your support in passing this resolution, with the amendment to include agriculture, so that North Dakota can continue to lead with strength, self-reliance, and unwavering support for our essential services.

Thank you, and I welcome any questions.