

Introduced by

Representatives Sandvig, Weisz, Callahan

Senators Krauter, Nalewaja, Thane

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the impact of divorce on  
2 children and issues of equity and fairness as they relate to custody determinations, visitation  
3 orders, and child support obligations.

4 **WHEREAS**, 65 percent of the 1.2 million divorces in 1995 in the United States involved  
5 couples with minor children; and

6 **WHEREAS**, children of divorced parents are more likely to drop out of school, to have  
7 out-of-wedlock births, and to get divorced themselves than children from intact families; and

8 **WHEREAS**, a child has a right to be supported emotionally, physically, and financially  
9 by both parents regardless of the parents' marital status; and

10 **WHEREAS**, frequent and continuing access by a child to both parents after the divorce  
11 should be encouraged; and

12 **WHEREAS**, concerns have been expressed that there are inequities in the enforcement  
13 of visitation orders for noncustodial parents and in the child support guidelines as they relate to  
14 parents who are obligors;

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

17 That the Legislative Council study the impact of divorce on children and issues of equity  
18 and fairness as they relate to custody determinations, visitation orders, and child support  
19 obligations; and

20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and  
21 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to  
22 the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly.