

**Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Monday, the sixth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4024  
(Senators Mathern, DeMers, Lee, G. Nelson)  
(Representatives Boucher, Dorso)**

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the development of an electronic mail and records management policy for governmental entities.

**WHEREAS**, various state agencies and institutions and numerous political subdivisions operate or maintain electronic mail systems through which government officials and employees and others are able to communicate and transmit information; and

**WHEREAS**, state law does not address the impact of open records laws with respect to the use of electronic mail, nor does it address the privacy issues surrounding monitoring of electronic mail; and

**WHEREAS**, before the state adopts an electronic mail policy, comprehensive study of privacy issues such as monitoring of electronic communications and what types of electronic communications are subject to open records laws is needed; and

**WHEREAS**, official business may be conducted electronically using digital signatures; and

**WHEREAS**, standards and procedures need to be reviewed for the effective management of the electronic records;

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

That the Legislative Council study the development of an electronic mail and records management policy for governmental entities; and

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

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

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Secretary of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1997,  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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Secretary of State