Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota FIRST DRAFT: Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for the Legislative Management Committee October 2000

Introduced by

- 1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study and develop a legislative
- 2 redistricting plan or plans for use in the 2002 primary election.
- 3 WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly has the primary responsibility for legislative
- 4 redistricting; and
- 5 **WHEREAS**, the demographic data necessary to complete the redistricting task must be
- 6 based on the 2000 federal decennial census; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the results of the 2000 federal decennial census will not be available to the
- 8 Legislative Assembly in sufficient time to permit the Legislative Assembly to consider a
- 9 legislative redistricting plan during the regular session of the Fifty-seventh Legislative
- 10 Assembly;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE _____ OF

- 12 NORTH DAKOTA, THE _____ CONCURRING THEREIN:
- 13 That the Legislative Council study legislative redistricting and develop a legislative
- 14 redistricting plan or plans for use in the 2002 primary election; and
- 15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Council report its findings and
- 16 recommendations, together with any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations,
- 17 to a reconvened or special session of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly.

NOTE: North Dakota Century Code Section 54-03-01.5 establishes requirements for redistricting plans. That section provides:

54-03-01.5. Legislative apportionment requirements. A legislative apportionment plan based on any census taken after 1989 must meet the following requirements:

- 1. The senate must consist of forty-nine members and the house must consist of ninety-eight members.
- 2. Except as provided in subsection 3, one senator and two representatives must be apportioned to each senatorial district. Representatives may be elected at large or from subdistricts.

- 3. Multimember senate districts providing for two senators and four representatives are authorized only when a proposed single member senatorial district includes a federal facility or federal installation, containing over two-thirds of the population of the proposed single member senatorial district.
- 4. Legislative districts and subdistricts must be compact and of contiguous territory.
- 5. Legislative districts must be as nearly equal in population as is practicable. Population deviation from district to district must be kept at a minimum. The total population variance of all districts, and subdistricts if created, from the average district population may not exceed recognized constitutional limitations.