

Fifty-seventh
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 3020**

Introduced by

Representatives Kasper, Byerly, Wald

Senators Christmann, Espegard, Fischer

1 A concurrent resolution urging the United States Army Corps of Engineers to promote private
2 access to, private ownership of, and private development on lands it owns and manages
3 around Lake Sakakawea, including the return of lakeshore lands that are contiguous to current
4 tribal-owned land to the Three Affiliated Tribes and development and implementation of a water
5 level policy that establishes and assures that Lake Sakakawea will have a stable water level.

6 **WHEREAS**, the Pick-Sloan Project, as authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1944, as
7 amended, provides major flood control benefits, recreational benefits, water supply benefits,
8 hydropower benefits, and navigational benefits for the downstream states of Iowa, Nebraska,
9 Missouri, and Kansas through construction of large reservoirs in states lying upstream from
10 these states; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Pick-Sloan Project reservoirs have been in place for many years, thus
12 providing the states downstream from the Missouri River Basin all the benefits promised in the
13 Pick-Sloan Project; and

14 **WHEREAS**, construction of facilities under the Pick-Sloan Project has, to date, resulted
15 in over \$16.7 billion of flood protection to downstream interests and has allowed these
16 downstream interests to develop the original floodplain of the Missouri River for industrial,
17 municipal, and agricultural uses; and

18 **WHEREAS**, under the Pick-Sloan Project, North Dakota sacrificed over 550,000 acres
19 of land which has meant the permanent loss of 2,641 jobs, \$45 million of annual personal
20 income, and \$131 million of annual gross business volume; and

21 **WHEREAS**, most of the land surrounding Lake Sakakawea, which was created by
22 Garrison Dam, is owned by the federal government and managed by the United States Army
23 Corps of Engineers; and

24 **WHEREAS**, promoting private access and private development of this land would
25 enhance this resource for the citizens of North Dakota;

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

3 That the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the United States Army Corps of
4 Engineers to promote private access to, private ownership of, and private development on
5 lands it owns and manages around Lake Sakakawea, including the return of lakeshore lands
6 that are contiguous to current tribal-owned land to the Three Affiliated Tribes and development
7 and implementation of a water level policy that establishes and assures that Lake Sakakawea
8 will have a stable water level; and

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
10 resolution to the Secretary of the Army; the Secretary of the Interior; the Division Engineer,
11 Northwestern Division, United States Army Corps of Engineers; the District Engineer, Omaha
12 District, United States Army Corps of Engineers; the Governor; each member of the State
13 Water Commission; and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.