

**Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4026
(Senators Krauter, Heitkamp)**

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to carefully examine United States agricultural policy with a view to addressing trade and export enhancement issues, adequate loan rates for all commodities, and any other issues or provisions that would restore income protection and prosperity for this country's farmers.

WHEREAS, the prices for many commodities grown by farmers in this state have for several years been at historically low levels; and

WHEREAS, the prices received by farmers for their commodities are often lower than the actual cost of production; and

WHEREAS, emergency government assistance payments to farmers in this state have over the last three years exceeded \$1 billion; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, government subsidies accounted for 13 percent of total farm income; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, government subsidies accounted for 42 percent of total farm income; and

WHEREAS, statistics released by the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri indicate that if the current agricultural policy is not changed, net farm income will by the year 2009 fall to \$37 billion, which is \$17 billion less than the 1996 level; and

WHEREAS, the European Union assists its farmers through high-support prices and generous direct payments, which result in prosperous rural areas and a vibrant agricultural economy; and

WHEREAS, this country's agricultural policy frequently fails to provide adequate protection from market downturns;

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

That the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to carefully examine United States agricultural policy with a view to addressing trade and export enhancement issues, adequate loan rates for all commodities, and any other issues or provisions that would restore income protection and prosperity for this country's farmers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the majority and minority leaders of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, the chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, the chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2001,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State