

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3071

Introduced by

Representatives R. Kelsch, Boehm, Porter, Renner

Senators Cook, Tomac

(Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to encourage the individuals and entities who received
2 advance payments from the members of the Mandan High School Band and their families to
3 make every possible effort to refund the payments or to otherwise provide compensation for the
4 financial losses incurred by the band members and their families in preparation for their trip to
5 Ireland.

6 **WHEREAS**, the Mandan High School Band had intended to travel to Ireland on
7 March 11, 2001, and appear in the 2001 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, Ireland; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the cost per student was in excess of \$1,625 and the band's total advanced
9 expenses for airfare, lodging, and food exceeded \$169,000; and

10 **WHEREAS**, each of the band members worked long and hard to raise funds necessary
11 to offset the inherent costs of the trip and the families of band members were obligated to make
12 up the difference between the amount generated through fundraising efforts and the actual cost
13 of the trip; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the 2001 St. Patrick's Day Parade was canceled because of the outbreak
15 of foot and mouth disease in Europe and the trip to Ireland was canceled in recognition of the
16 high risk that the foot and mouth disease could be transported back to the United States and if
17 so transported, could decimate the livestock industry in this state and country; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the members of the Mandan High School Band and their families need to
19 be commended for their maturity and wisdom in understanding the value of this state's and this
20 country's livestock industry; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the members of the Mandan High School Band and their families have
22 incurred significant financial loss as a result of the trip's cancellation and their inability to be
23 reimbursed for any advanced payments;

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

1 That the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
2 encourage the individuals and entities who received advanced payments from the members of
3 the Mandan High School Band and their families to make every possible effort to refund the
4 payments or to otherwise provide compensation for the financial losses incurred by the band
5 members and their families; and

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
7 resolution to the President of the United States, the President of Ireland, the United States
8 Ambassador to Ireland, the Irish Ambassador to the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture,
9 the North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner, the North Dakota Farm Bureau, the North Dakota
10 Farmer's Union, the North Dakota Beef Commission, the North Dakota Stockmen's Association,
11 the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the Cattlemen's Beef Board, the United States Meat
12 Export Federation, the American National Cattlegrowers, and to each member of the North
13 Dakota Congressional Delegation.