

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3022**

Introduced by

Representatives Severson, DeKrey, Monson

Senator Klein

1 A concurrent resolution establishing an official state wind power development objective of  
2 10,000 megawatts of installed turbine capacity to be achieved by the year 2020 and directing all  
3 state departments, agencies, and commissions to adopt this official objective for planning and  
4 policy development purposes.

5 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota ranks first among the states in commercially exploitable wind  
6 resource; and

7 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota lags behind many other states in wind power development  
8 and now ranks 20th among the states in the development of wind power; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in 1999 the Governor and Legislature of Texas, as the second-ranked wind  
10 resource state, adopted a policy goal of installing 2,000 megawatts of renewable energy  
11 capacity by the year 2009, and that state has subsequently enjoyed over \$1 billion in wind  
12 power investment and added, on average, 2.5 megawatts of installed wind turbine capacity  
13 daily in 2001; and

14 **WHEREAS**, a United States Department of Energy initiative aims to derive 5 percent of  
15 national electricity consumption from wind by the year 2020; and

16 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota's proportional share of the 5 percent national wind energy  
17 goal, based on the state's wind resource potential, is 9,394 megawatts of installed wind turbine  
18 capacity; and

19 **WHEREAS**, wind power development in North Dakota proportionate to the state's share  
20 of the national wind resource would result in billions of dollars of new capital investment and  
21 hundreds of millions of dollars in land lease rentals, taxes, ancillary business development, and  
22 other critical economic development benefits to rural communities throughout the state; and

23 **WHEREAS**, those states that develop their wind resource first will benefit most from  
24 development of other forms of power production to "firm" intermittent wind power and to secure  
25 the necessary infrastructure to transport and market their wind power production; and

1           **WHEREAS**, planning for transmission capacity to export only 1,500 to 3,000 megawatts  
2 of electricity may preclude the opportunity to export a greater amount of energy commensurate  
3 with the state's wind resource; and

4           **WHEREAS**, wind turbines have a life expectancy of over 25 years and will likely be  
5 replaced after initial wind turbines become obsolete, thus providing continued economic  
6 benefits for decades into the future; and

7           **WHEREAS**, states with very large-scale wind power production will capture a major  
8 share of the future multibillion dollar national and international environmental credit trading  
9 market; and

10          **WHEREAS**, states with very large-scale wind power production will be positioned for  
11 leadership in fueling a future hydrogen economy and capitalizing on the most significant  
12 industrial transformation since the advent of the internal combustion engine; and

13          **WHEREAS**, formally setting and committing to a wind power development objective is  
14 the vital first step in sound state and federal policy development, marshalling public and private  
15 resources, and planning adequately for the required infrastructures;

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

18          That the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly establishes an official state wind power  
19 objective of 10,000 megawatts of installed turbine capacity to be achieved by the year 2020 and  
20 directs all state departments, agencies, and commissions to adopt this official objective for  
21 planning and policy development purposes; and

22          **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this  
23 resolution to the Governor, each department and agency head, and each state board and  
24 commission.