

**Sixtieth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Wednesday, January 3, 2007**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4017
(Senator Nething)

A concurrent resolution expressing support for the continued statewide efforts to prevent the initiation of smoking among minors and to promote quitting among minors and adults and expressing concern about employers that allow their teenage employees to take smoking breaks, a practice that encourages the initiation of tobacco use, does not encourage or create incentives for minors to quit smoking, reduces productivity and the amount of time spent on assigned work-related duties, and creates hostility between smoking and nonsmoking employees.

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly is concerned about minors' access to tobacco, the marketing of tobacco products to minors, and the health effects of tobacco products on minors and adults; and

WHEREAS, 90 percent of all initiation of tobacco use occurs among individuals under the age of 21; and

WHEREAS, each day, nearly 6,000 minors start smoking; of these, nearly 2,000 will become regular smokers resulting in almost 800,000 new underage smokers annually; and

WHEREAS, tobacco use in adolescence is associated with a range of health-compromising behaviors; and

WHEREAS, studies show that employees who smoke take a higher proportion of sick days and have longer absences than nonsmoking employees and have about two times more lost production time per week than employees who never smoked;

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

That the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly expresses support for the continued statewide efforts to prevent the initiation of smoking among minors and to promote the quitting of smoking among minors and adults and expresses concern about employers that allow their teenage employees to take smoking breaks, a practice that encourages the initiation of tobacco use, does not encourage or create incentives for minors to quit smoking, reduces productivity and the amount of time spent on assigned work-related duties, and creates hostility between smoking and nonsmoking employees.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2007,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State