

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3007

Introduced by

Representatives Porter, Carlson, Damschen, Hanson

Senators Stenehjem, Hogue

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to amend federal law to allow North Dakota resident
2 sharpshooters to take elk within Theodore Roosevelt National Park to assist the National Park
3 Service in reducing and managing the park's elk population.

4 **WHEREAS**, Theodore Roosevelt National Park has released a Draft Elk Management
5 Plan/Environmental Impact Statement; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Draft Elk Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement analyzes
7 four action alternatives for initial herd reduction, as well as a no action alternative, and one
8 alternative that could be used in combination with others for elk herd maintenance; and

9 **WHEREAS**, one alternative for initial herd reduction focuses on sharpshooting elk,
10 using government employees, contractors, or skilled volunteers; and

11 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota is opposed to the action alternatives identified in the Draft Elk
12 Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement released by Theodore Roosevelt National
13 Park; and

14 **WHEREAS**, hunting within the park boundaries is not currently allowed under federal
15 law; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the elk population of Theodore Roosevelt National Park must be reduced to
17 manageable levels to sustain a healthy population of elk in the park and to reduce the
18 possibility of chronic wasting disease entering the park's elk population; and

19 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota sportsmen have the hunting tradition, expertise, and ethics to
20 assist the National Park Service in this effort; and

21 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota sharpshooters should be chosen by a lottery system and be
22 entitled to keep any animal the sharpshooter takes;

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

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly

1 That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
2 amend federal law to allow North Dakota resident sharpshooters to take elk within Theodore
3 Roosevelt National Park to assist the National Park Service in reducing and managing the
4 park's elk population; and

5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
6 resolution by registered mail, return receipt requested, to the Secretary of the Interior, the
7 director of the National Park Service, the superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park,
8 and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.