

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.

Introduced by

Senator Krauter

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress and the President of the United States to enact federal
2 legislation to promote travel to the United States by overseas visitors, thereby promoting the
3 economies of communities across North Dakota and the United States.

4 **WHEREAS**, travel and tourism generates \$1.7 trillion in economic activity in the United
5 States every year; and

6 **WHEREAS**, travel and tourism is a powerful economic generator for North Dakota,
7 accounting for \$3.8 billion in visitor spending in the state in 2006; and

8 **WHEREAS**, since the security changes after 9/11 were implemented, a perception grew
9 overseas that the United States is no longer a friendly and welcoming destination; and

10 **WHEREAS**, travel to the United States from overseas destinations have yet to rebound
11 to pre-9/11 levels; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the perception of America as having an unwelcome entry process has cost
13 America \$150 billion in lost visitor spending and 250,000 American jobs--losses that affect
14 every state in the country; and

15 **WHEREAS**, tourism promotes diplomacy as overseas visitors are more likely to have a
16 favorable opinion of the United States after having visited; and

17 **WHEREAS**, despite its positive impact across the United States economy, the federal
18 government has failed to promote travel and tourism as a means to increase economic growth;
19 and

20 **WHEREAS**, all major industrialized nations except the United States have national
21 tourism policies and spend significant funds on promoting their destinations overseas, and, in
22 turn, see substantial returns on their investments; and

23 **WHEREAS**, communities across the state work to promote travel and would benefit
24 from a federal promotion; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Travel Promotion Act would benefit North Dakota and every state,
2 create jobs, explain national security procedures, and improve our national image around the
3 world; and

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

6 That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly supports efforts to pass the Travel Promotion
7 Act in order to promote travel to the United States and the economic growth of North Dakota's
8 communities.