

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 3039

Introduced by

Representatives Belter, Brandenburg

Senator Klein

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to end the outer continental shelf moratorium on oil
2 and natural gas exploration and production.

3 **WHEREAS**, all Americans are suffering from record high energy prices; and

4 **WHEREAS**, a federal legislative moratorium prohibits oil and natural gas drilling,
5 exploration, and production on the outer continental shelves; and

6 **WHEREAS**, coastal states should have the right to determine on their own whether
7 such drilling, exploration, and production should be permitted along their coasts; and

8 **WHEREAS**, according to the United States Department of the Interior, there are an
9 estimated 86 billion barrels of oil and 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas on the outer
10 continental shelves; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Congress should eliminate policies, such as the outer continental shelf
12 moratorium, which artificially limit oil and natural gas supply and thereby increase energy
13 prices; and

14 **WHEREAS**, lower energy costs and more reliable energy markets in the United States
15 would promote economic growth and prosperity; and

16 **WHEREAS**, coastal states would share in significant revenue from outer continental
17 shelf leases; and

18 **WHEREAS**, offshore oil drilling would lead to significant job growth for coastal
19 communities; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Energy has stated advanced, more
21 energy-efficient drilling and production methods practically eliminate spills from offshore
22 platforms;

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

1 That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly strongly urges the Congress of the United
2 States to end the outer continental shelf moratorium on oil and natural gas exploration and
3 production; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
5 resolution to the President, the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, and the Majority and
6 Minority Leaders of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate.