

Introduced by

Senators Larsen, Bowman, Davison

Representatives Maragos, Streyle

1 A concurrent resolution to urge Congress to allow and support the use of thorium reactors in
2 this state for the creation of energy and medical isotopes.

3 **WHEREAS**, America possesses a nearly inexhaustible supply, ~~more than a~~
4 ~~billion~~thousands of years, of thorium and uranium that dramatically exceeds all known potential
5 energy reserves; and

6 **WHEREAS**, better utilization of thorium and uranium in specially designed reactors, e.g.,
7 molten salt reactors and liquid fluoride thorium reactors, can provide energy security from other
8 nations by utilizing coal and a reactor's nuclear heat to produce an abundance of synthetic
9 transportation fuels that are safe, affordable, and environmentally friendly; and

10 **WHEREAS**, these molten liquid fueled reactors are inherently safe, cannot blowup, cannot
11 meltdown, cannot cause a widespread radiation release event in the worst possible scenario,
12 and can consume nearly one hundred percent of the fissionable energy in the fuel which limits
13 and minimizes nuclear waste and geologic storage issues; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the efficient use of thorium or uranium in a specially designed molten salt
15 reactor allows for greatly increased environmentally friendly energy production that improves
16 the economics of many recycling technologies and raises the standard of living; and

17 **WHEREAS**, advanced technology using thorium and uranium can affordably provide
18 medical isotopes of materials used for treating cancer and HIV/AIDS, diagnostic procedures,
19 and improved health care; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, charged with licensing nuclear reactors,
21 is not well-funded for establishing procedures for new, advanced reactor designs based on
22 different architectures from today's fleet of light water reactors and a method for fast-tracking
23 the licensing of liquid fluoride thorium reactors is needed;

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

Sixty-fourth
Legislative Assembly

1 That the Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to allow
2 and support the use of thorium reactors in this state for the creation of energy and medical
3 isotopes; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
5 to each member of the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission and to each member of the
6 North Dakota Congressional Delegation.