

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4017

Introduced by

Senators Enget, Hogan, Hogue, Klein, Mathern

1 A concurrent resolution recognizing pornography as a public health hazard.

2 **WHEREAS**, each day, countless people are exposed to sexually explicit content through a
3 wide range of media, and these consumers often are unaware of the health risks posed by such
4 material; and

5 **WHEREAS**, children are encountering pornography before their teens, and this early
6 exposure may lead to low self-esteem and body image disorders and an increased desire to
7 engage in risky sexual behavior; and

8 **WHEREAS**, in addition to promoting unhealthy sexual expectations, the adult entertainment
9 industry produces media that objectifies women and children, as well as depicts rape and
10 abuse; by associating violence with sexual gratification, these materials perpetuate the demand
11 for sex trafficking, prostitution, child pornography, and sexual abuse images; and

12 **WHEREAS**, pornography has been linked to detrimental health effects, including brain
13 development complications, emotional and medical afflictions, the inability to form and maintain
14 intimate relationships, and sexual addiction; these dangers not only affect people on an
15 individual level but also contribute to the degradation of the family unit, frequently leading to
16 marital dissatisfaction and infidelity; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the ubiquity of pornography has resulted in a host of societal problems and
18 potentially negative health effects, and it is of paramount importance that our leaders address
19 this critical public health issue;

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

22 That the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly hereby recognize pornography as a public health
23 hazard, and recognize the need for education, prevention, research, and policy changes to
24 address the harmful influence and consequences of pornography; and

- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
- 2 to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, the Governor, and the Attorney
- 3 General.