

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4017

Introduced by

Senators Enget, Hogan, Hogue, Klein, Mathern

1 A concurrent resolution recognizing pornography as a public health hazard directing the
2 Legislative Management to consider studying the detrimental impacts of pornography.
3 ~~— WHEREAS, each day, countless people are exposed to sexually explicit content through a~~
4 ~~wide range of media, and these consumers often are unaware of the health risks posed by such~~
5 ~~material; and~~
6 ~~— WHEREAS, children are encountering pornography before their teens, and this early~~
7 ~~exposure may lead to low self-esteem and body image disorders and an increased desire to~~
8 ~~engage in risky sexual behavior; and~~
9 ~~— WHEREAS, in addition to promoting unhealthy sexual expectations, the adult entertainment~~
10 ~~industry produces media that objectifies women and children, as well as depicts rape and~~
11 ~~abuse; by associating violence with sexual gratification, these materials perpetuate the demand~~
12 ~~for sex trafficking, prostitution, child pornography, and sexual abuse images; and~~
13 ~~— WHEREAS, pornography has been linked to detrimental health effects, including brain~~
14 ~~development complications, emotional and medical afflictions, the inability to form and maintain~~
15 ~~intimate relationships, and sexual addiction; these dangers not only affect people on an~~
16 ~~individual level but also contribute to the degradation of the family unit, frequently leading to~~
17 ~~marital dissatisfaction and infidelity; and~~
18 ~~— WHEREAS, the ubiquity of pornography has resulted in a host of societal problems and~~
19 ~~potentially negative health effects, and it is of paramount importance that our leaders address~~
20 ~~this critical public health issue;~~
21 — WHEREAS, sexually explicit content is widely available and consumers often are unaware
22 of the risk posed by such material; and

1 WHEREAS, children may be exposed to pornography and early exposure may lead to low
2 self-esteem, body image disorders, unhealthy sexual expectations, and the association of
3 violence with sexual gratification; and

4 WHEREAS, the adult entertainment industry produces media that objectifies women and
5 children, and depicts rape and abuse, perpetuating the demand for sex trafficking, prostitution,
6 child pornography, and sexual abuse images; and

7 WHEREAS, pornography has been linked to detrimental effects and societal problems, and
8 it is of paramount importance that our leaders address this issue;

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

11 ~~— That the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly hereby recognize pornography as a public health~~
12 ~~hazard, and recognize the need for education, prevention, research, and policy changes to~~
13 ~~address the harmful influence and consequences of pornography; and~~

14 ~~— **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution~~
15 ~~to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, the Governor, and the Attorney~~
16 ~~General.~~

17 That the Legislative Management consider studying the detrimental impacts of
18 pornography; and

19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the study analyze the current efforts for education,
20 prevention, and research related to the consequences of pornography, examine potential policy
21 changes, and include input from the relevant state agencies and other stakeholders; and

22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Legislative Management report its findings and
23 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
24 the Seventieth Legislative Assembly.