

2023 HOUSE INDUSTRY, BUSINESS AND LABOR

HCR 3020

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Industry, Business and Labor Committee Room JW327C, State Capitol

HCR 3020
3/08/2023

Relating to annual sessions of the legislative assembly; and to provide an effective date.

Chairman Louser called the meeting to order 10:06 AM

Members Present: Chairman Louser, Vice Chairman Ostlie, Representatives Boschee, Christy, Dakane, Johnson, Kasper, Koppelman, Ruby, Schauer, Thomas, Tveit, Wagner, Warrey.

Discussion Topics:

- Accomplishment pressures
- Reactionary
- Educated policy makers
- Orientation for training
- Management of session(s)
- Bill management

In favor:

Representative Jim Kasper, District 46, Fargo, ND, #23016, 23020

Opposed:

Pete Hanebutt, ND Farm Bureau (no written testimony)

Additional written testimony:

Kevin Herrmann, Beulah, ND, #22836

Chairman Louser adjourned the meeting 10:42 AM

Diane Lillis, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Industry, Business and Labor Committee Room JW327C, State Capitol

HCR 3020
3/08/2023

Relating to annual sessions of the legislative assembly; and to provide an effective date.

Chairman Louser called the meeting to order 11:18 AM

Members Present: Chairman Louser, Vice Chairman Ostlie, Representatives Boschee, Christy, Dakane, Johnson, Kasper, Koppelman, Ruby, Schauer, Thomas, Tveit, Wagner, Warrey.

Discussion Topics:

- Forcing annual sessions
- Confused electorate
- Limiting pool of candidates
- Annual session opportunity
- Language correct
- Override veto
- HCR 3005
- Number of days
- Flexibility

Representative Koppelman proposed amendments and moved to adopt LC #23.3026.02001.
Representative Kasper seconded.

Roll call vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Scott Louser	Y
Representative Mitch Ostlie	N
Representative Josh Boschee	Y
Representative Josh Christy	Y
Representative Hamida Dakane	Y
Representative Jorin Johnson	Y
Representative Jim Kasper	Y
Representative Ben Koppelman	Y
Representative Dan Ruby	Y
Representative Austen Schauer	N
Representative Paul J. Thomas	Y
Representative Bill Tveit	N
Representative Scott Wagner	Y
Representative Jonathan Warrey	Y

Motion passed 11-3-0

Representative Koppelman moved do pass as amended.
Representative Dakane seconded.

Roll call vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Scott Louser	Y
Representative Mitch Ostlie	N
Representative Josh Boschee	Y
Representative Josh Christy	N
Representative Hamida Dakane	Y
Representative Jorin Johnson	Y
Representative Jim Kasper	Y
Representative Ben Koppelman	Y
Representative Dan Ruby	Y
Representative Austen Schauer	N
Representative Paul J. Thomas	N
Representative Bill Tveit	N
Representative Scott Wagner	Y
Representative Jonathan Warrey	N

Motion passed 8-6-0

Representative Koppelman will carry the bill.

Chairman Louser adjourned the meeting 11:57 AM

Diane Lillis, Committee Clerk

March 8, 2023

at
3-8-23

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3020

Page 1, line 2, remove "annual"

Page 1, line 5, remove "year for"

Page 1, line 6, replace "at least fifty days" with "biennium for up to one hundred days"

Page 1, line 6, after "and" insert ", upon a two-thirds vote of each house,"

Page 1, line 6, replace "sixty" with "one hundred twenty"

Page 1, line 25, replace "fifty" with "one hundred"

Page 1, line 25, remove the overstrike over "~~during the biennium~~"

Page 1, line 25, remove "each calendar year"

Page 2, line 1, replace "ten" with "twenty"

Page 2, line 2, replace "year" with "biennium"

Page 2, line 3, replace "fifty" with "one hundred"

Page 2, line 7, remove the overstrike over "~~biennium~~"

Page 2, line 7, remove "year"

Re-number accordingly

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3020: Industry, Business and Labor Committee (Rep. Louser, Chairman)
recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends
DO PASS (8 YEAS, 6 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3020 was
placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 2, remove "annual"

Page 1, line 5, remove "year for"

Page 1, line 6, replace "at least fifty days" with "biennium for up to one hundred days"

Page 1, line 6, after "and" insert ", upon a two-thirds vote of each house,"

Page 1, line 6, replace "sixty" with "one hundred twenty"

Page 1, line 25, replace "fifty" with "one hundred"

Page 1, line 25, remove the overstrike over "~~during the biennium~~"

Page 1, line 25, remove "each calendar year"

Page 2, line 1, replace "ten" with "twenty"

Page 2, line 2, replace "year" with "biennium"

Page 2, line 3, replace "fifty" with "one hundred"

Page 2, line 7, remove the overstrike over "~~biennium~~"

Page 2, line 7, remove "year"

Renumber accordingly

2023 SENATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

HCR 3020

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Workforce Development Committee Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HCR 3020
3/23/2023

A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact sections 7 and 13 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to sessions of the legislative assembly; and to provide an effective date
--

11:00 AM **Chairman Wobbema** called the hearing to order. **Senators Wobbema, Axtman, Elkin, Larson, Sickler, Piepkorn** were present.

Discussion Topics:

- Legislative session
- Current statute
- Terms
- Constitutional amendment

11:00 AM **Representative Kasper** introduced HCR 3020 and testified in favor. # 26449

Additional written testimony:

Kevin Hermann testimony in opposition #26354

11:14 AM **Chairman Wobbema** closed the hearing.

Patricia Lahr, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Workforce Development Committee Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HCR 3020
3/30/2023

A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact sections 7 and 13 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to sessions of the legislative assembly; and to provide an effective date
--

3:24 PM **Chairman Wobbema** called the meeting to order. **Senators Wobbema, Axtman, Elkin, Larson, Sickler, Piepkorn** were present.

Discussion Topics:

- Legislative calendar
- Terms
- Annual sessions

Senator Wobbema provided information and called for discussion.

Committee discussed.

3:56 PM **Chairman Wobbema** closed the meeting.

Patricia Lahr, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Workforce Development Committee Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HCR 3020
4/7/2023

A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact sections 7 and 13 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to sessions of the legislative assembly; and to provide an effective date.

10:00 AM **Chairman Wobbema** called the meeting to order. **Senators Wobbema, Axtman, Elkin, Larson, Sickler** were present. **Senator Piepkorn** was absent.

Discussion Topics:

- Adding days to the calendar
- Terms
- Annual sessions
- Study

Senator Wobbema calls for discussion.

Senator Wobbema provided a proposed amendment. #27377

Senator Axtman moved to adopt amendment.
Senator Larson seconded the motion.

Roll call vote.

Senators	Vote
Senator Michael A. Wobbema	Y
Senator Michelle Axtman	Y
Senator Jay Elkin	Y
Senator Diane Larson	Y
Senator Merrill Piepkorn	AB
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y

Motion passed 5-0-1.

Senator Axtman moved **DO NOT PASS** as **AMENDED**.
Senator Larson seconded the motion.

Roll call vote.

Senators	Vote
Senator Michael A. Wobbema	Y
Senator Michelle Axtman	Y
Senator Jay Elkin	Y
Senator Diane Larson	Y
Senator Merrill Piepkorn	AB
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y

Motion passed 5-0-1.

Senate Workforce Development Committee
HCR 3020
April 7, 2023
Page 2

Chairman Wobbema will carry HCR 3020.

10:11 AM **Chairman Wobbema** closed the meeting.

Patricia Lahr, Committee Clerk

JA
4-7-23

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
NO. 3020

Page 1, line 6, replace "for up to one hundred days and," with "if the assembly meets annually,
and"

Page 1, line 7, remove "twenty"

Page 1, line 24, remove the overstrike over "~~No regular session of the legislative assembly may
exceed eighty~~"

Page 1, line 24, remove "The legislative"

Page 1, line 25, remove "assembly shall meet for up to one hundred"

Page 1, line 25, replace "Upon" with "If the legislative assembly holds annual sessions, and
upon"

Page 2, line 1, after "regular" insert "annual"

Page 2, line 1, replace "twenty" with "ten"

Page 2, line 2, replace "biennium" with "year"

Page 2, line 3, remove the overstrike over "~~eighty~~"

Page 2, line 3, after "~~natural~~" insert "business days each biennium, or, if annual sessions,"

Page 2, line 3, after the first "days" insert "per biennium"

Re-number accordingly

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3020, as engrossed: Workforce Development Committee (Sen. Wobbema, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends **DO NOT PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HCR 3020 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This resolution does not affect workforce development.

Page 1, line 6, replace "for up to one hundred days and," with "if the assembly meets annually, and"

Page 1, line 7, remove "twenty"

Page 1, line 24, remove the overstrike over "~~No regular session of the legislative assembly may exceed eighty~~"

Page 1, line 24, remove "The legislative"

Page 1, line 25, remove "assembly shall meet for up to one hundred"

Page 1, line 25, replace "Upon" with "If the legislative assembly holds annual sessions, and upon"

Page 2, line 1, after "regular" insert "annual"

Page 2, line 1, replace "twenty" with "ten"

Page 2, line 2, replace "biennium" with "year"

Page 2, line 3, remove the overstrike over "eighty"

Page 2, line 3, after "natural" insert "business days each biennium, or, if annual sessions,"

Page 2, line 3, after the first "days" insert "per biennium"

Renumber accordingly

TESTIMONY

HCR 3020

Written testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 3020

Chairman Louser and Industry, Business and Labor Committee Members

My name is Kevin Herrmann, 300 Fair St. SW, Beulah, ND. I am an independent North Dakota taxpayer.

I am opposed to House Concurrent Resolution 3020. This resolution will change the current 80 day regular legislative session in a two year span to a total of 100 days plus a possible extra 20 days in a two year span. This resolution will make the taxpayers paid more in total salaries and reimbursement in lodging to legislators. What will be the other cost of paying other workers who are not legislators? On page 2, line 4, the underline wording "or when called by the legislative management to reconvene to reconsider a veto". How many days would be allowed? Why would the underline wording not count as part of the 50 days of this resolution?

There has been legislative bill in past legislative sessions relating to having annual sessions splitting the current 80 day legislative session in Article IV but was defeated in past legislative sessions. In the current 2023 legislative session, House Bill 1001, section 8 page 7, has one of the propose study item of the need to hold annual sessions. Unless section 8 of House Bill 1001 is amended, there is no need of House Concurrent Resolution 3020.

Now the 2023 legislators are using term limits as the push for annual sessions. It was all Republicans on the initiative petition for term limits. There were 2 current legislators and 5 former legislators on the sponsoring committee for term limits.

I am asking House Industry, Business and Labor to give House Concurrent Resolution 3020 a DO NOT PASS recommendation.

Kevin Herrmann
701-873-4163

From Representative Jim Kasper 3/18/23

HCR 3019

ARTICLE I
DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

HCR 3020

Section 1. All individuals are by nature equally free and independent and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing and protecting property and reputation; pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness; and to keep and bear arms for the defense of their person, family, property, and the state, and for lawful hunting, recreational, and other lawful purposes, which shall not be infringed.

Section 2. All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for the protection, security and benefit of the people, and they have a right to alter or reform the same whenever the public good may require.

Section 3. The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference shall be forever guaranteed in this state, and no person shall be rendered incompetent to be a witness or juror on account of his opinion on matters of religious belief; but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of this state.

Section 4. Every man may freely write, speak and publish his opinions on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that privilege. In all civil and criminal trials for libel the truth may be given in evidence, and shall be a sufficient defense when the matter is published with good motives and for justifiable ends; and the jury shall have the same power of giving a general verdict as in other cases; and in all indictments or informations for libels the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts under the direction of the court as in other cases.

Section 5. The citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for the common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for the redress of grievances, or for other proper purposes, by petition, address or remonstrance.

Section 6. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crime, shall ever be tolerated in this state.

Section 7. Every citizen of this state shall be free to obtain employment wherever possible, and any person, corporation, or agent thereof, maliciously interfering or hindering in any way, any citizen from obtaining or enjoying employment already obtained, from any other corporation or person, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Section 8. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons and things to be seized.

Section 9. All courts shall be open, and every man for any injury done him in his lands, goods, person or reputation shall have remedy by due process of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial or delay. Suits may be brought against the state in such manner, in such courts, and in such cases, as the legislative assembly may, by law, direct.

Section 10. Until otherwise provided by law, no person shall, for a felony, be proceeded against criminally, otherwise than by indictment, except in cases arising in the land or naval

Article I: Declaration of Rights

forces, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger. In all other cases, offenses shall be prosecuted criminally by indictment or information. The legislative assembly may change, regulate or abolish the grand jury system.

Section 11. All persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offenses when the proof is evident or the presumption great. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor shall cruel or unusual punishments be inflicted. Witnesses shall not be unreasonably detained, nor be confined in any room where criminals are actually imprisoned.

Section 12. In criminal prosecutions in any court whatever, the party accused shall have the right to a speedy and public trial; to have the process of the court to compel the attendance of witnesses in his behalf; and to appear and defend in person and with counsel. No person shall be twice put in jeopardy for the same offense, nor be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law.

Section 13. The right of trial by jury shall be secured to all, and remain inviolate. A person accused of a crime for which he may be confined for a period of more than one year has the right of trial by a jury of twelve. The legislative assembly may determine the size of the jury for all other cases, provided that the jury consists of at least six members. All verdicts must be unanimous.

Section 14. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended unless, when in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require.

Section 15. No person shall be imprisoned for debt unless upon refusal to deliver up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law; or in cases of tort; or where there is strong presumption of fraud.

Section 16. Private property shall not be taken or damaged for public use without just compensation having been first made to, or paid into court for the owner, unless the owner chooses to accept annual payments as may be provided for by law. No right of way shall be appropriated to the use of any corporation until full compensation therefor be first made in money or ascertained and paid into court for the owner, unless the owner chooses annual payments as may be provided by law, irrespective of any benefit from any improvement proposed by such corporation. Compensation shall be ascertained by a jury, unless a jury be waived. When the state or any of its departments, agencies or political subdivisions seeks to acquire right of way, it may take possession upon making an offer to purchase and by depositing the amount of such offer with the clerk of the district court of the county wherein the right of way is located. The clerk shall immediately notify the owner of such deposit. The owner may thereupon appeal to the court in the manner provided by law, and may have a jury trial, unless a jury be waived, to determine the damages, which damages the owner may choose to accept in annual payments as may be provided for by law. Annual payments shall not be subject to escalator clauses but may be supplemented by interest earned.

For purposes of this section, a public use or a public purpose does not include public benefits of economic development, including an increase in tax base, tax revenues, employment, or general economic health. Private property shall not be taken for the use of, or ownership by, any private individual or entity, unless that property is necessary for conducting a common carrier or utility business.

Article I: Declaration of Rights

Section 17. Treason against the state shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies or giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the evidence of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

Section 18. No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligations of contracts shall ever be passed.

Section 19. The military shall be subordinate to the civil power. No standing army shall be maintained by this state in time of peace, and no soldiers shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, except in the manner prescribed by law.

* **Section 20.** To guard against transgressions of the high powers which we have delegated, we declare that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government and shall forever remain inviolate.

* * **Section 21.** No special privileges or immunities shall ever be granted which may not be altered, revoked or repealed by the legislative assembly; nor shall any citizen or class of citizens be granted privileges or immunities which upon the same terms shall not be granted to all citizens.

Section 22. All laws of a general nature shall have a uniform operation.

Section 23. The state of North Dakota is an inseparable part of the American union and the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land.

Section 24. The provisions of this constitution are mandatory and prohibitory unless, by express words, they are declared to be otherwise.

Section 25.

1. To preserve and protect the right of crime victims to justice, to ensure crime victims a meaningful role throughout the criminal and juvenile justice systems, and to ensure that crime victims' rights and interests are respected and protected by law in a manner no less vigorous than the protections afforded to criminal defendants and delinquent children, all victims shall be entitled to the following rights, beginning at the time of their victimization:
 - a. The right to be treated with fairness and respect for the victim's dignity.
 - b. The right to be free from intimidation, harassment, and abuse.
 - c. The right to be reasonably protected from the accused and any person acting on behalf of the accused.
 - d. The right to have the safety and welfare of the victim and the victim's family considered when setting bail or making release decisions.
 - e. The right to prevent the disclosure of information or records that could be used to locate or harass the victim or the victim's family, or which could disclose confidential or privileged information about the victim, and to be notified of any request for such information or records.
 - f. The right to privacy, which includes the right to refuse an interview, deposition, or other discovery request made by the defendant, the defendant's attorney, or any person acting on behalf of the defendant, and to set reasonable conditions on the conduct of any such interaction to which the victim consents. Nothing in this section shall abrogate a defendant's sixth amendment rights under the Constitution of the United States nor diminish the state's disclosure obligations to a defendant.

ARTICLE III POWERS RESERVED TO THE PEOPLE

Section 1. While the legislative power of this state shall be vested in a legislative assembly consisting of a senate and a house of representatives, the people reserve the power to propose and enact laws by the initiative, including the call for a constitutional convention; to approve or reject legislative Acts, or parts thereof, by the referendum; to propose and adopt constitutional amendments by the initiative; and to recall certain elected officials. This article is self-executing and all of its provisions are mandatory. Laws may be enacted to facilitate and safeguard, but not to hamper, restrict, or impair these powers.

Section 2. A petition to initiate or to refer a measure must be presented to the secretary of state for approval as to form. A request for approval must be presented over the names and signatures of twenty-five or more electors as sponsors, one of whom must be designated as chairman of the sponsoring committee. The secretary of state shall approve the petition for circulation if it is in proper form and contains the names and addresses of the sponsors and the full text of the measure.

The legislative assembly may provide by law for a procedure through which the legislative council may establish an appropriate method for determining the fiscal impact of an initiative measure and for making the information regarding the fiscal impact of the measure available to the public.

Section 3. The petition shall be circulated only by electors. They shall swear thereon that the electors who have signed the petition did so in their presence. Each elector signing a petition shall also write in the date of signing and his post-office address. No law shall be enacted limiting the number of copies of a petition. The copies shall become part of the original petition when filed.

Section 4. The petition may be submitted to the secretary of state if signed by electors equal in number to two percent of the resident population of the state at the last federal decennial census.

Section 5. An initiative petition shall be submitted not less than one hundred twenty days before the statewide election at which the measure is to be voted upon. A referendum petition may be submitted only within ninety days after the filing of the measure with the secretary of state. The submission of a petition shall suspend the operation of any measure enacted by the legislative assembly except emergency measures and appropriation measures for the support and maintenance of state departments and institutions. The submission of a petition against one or more items or parts of any measure shall not prevent the remainder from going into effect. A referred measure may be voted upon at a statewide election or at a special election called by the governor.

Section 6. The secretary of state shall pass upon each petition, and if the secretary of state finds it insufficient, the secretary of state shall notify the "committee for the petitioners" and allow twenty days for correction. All decisions of the secretary of state in regard to any petition are subject to review by the supreme court. But if the sufficiency of the petition is being reviewed at the time the ballot is prepared, the secretary of state shall place the measure on the ballot and no subsequent decision shall invalidate the measure if it is at the election approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon. If proceedings are brought against any petition upon any ground, the burden of proof is upon the party attacking it and the

Article III: Powers Reserved to The People

proceedings must be filed with the supreme court no later than seventy-five days before the date of the statewide election at which the measure is to be voted upon.

Section 7. All decisions of the secretary of state in the petition process are subject to review by the supreme court in the exercise of original jurisdiction. A proceeding to review a decision of the secretary of state must be filed with the supreme court no later than seventy-five days before the date of the statewide election at which the measure is to be voted upon. If the decision of the secretary of state is being reviewed at the time the ballot is prepared, the secretary of state shall place the measure on the ballot and no court action shall invalidate the measure if it is approved at the election by a majority of the votes cast thereon.

Section 8. If a majority of votes cast upon an initiated or a referred measure are affirmative, it shall be deemed enacted. An initiated or referred measure which is approved shall become law thirty days after the election, and a referred measure which is rejected shall be void immediately. If conflicting measures are approved, the one receiving the highest number of affirmative votes shall be law. A measure approved by the electors may not be repealed or amended by the legislative assembly for seven years from its effective date, except by a two-thirds vote of the members elected to each house.

Section 9. A constitutional amendment may be proposed by initiative petition. If signed by electors equal in number to four percent of the resident population of the state at the last federal decennial census, the petition may be submitted to the secretary of state. All other provisions relating to initiative measures apply hereto.

Section 10. Any elected official of the state, of any county or of any legislative or county commissioner district shall be subject to recall by petition of electors equal in number to twenty-five percent of those who voted at the preceding general election for the office of governor in the state, county, or district in which the official is to be recalled.

The petition shall be filed with the official with whom a petition for nomination to the office in question is filed, who shall call a special election if he finds the petition valid and sufficient. No elector may remove his name from a recall petition.

The name of the official to be recalled shall be placed on the ballot unless he resigns within ten days after the filing of the petition. Other candidates for the office may be nominated in a manner provided by law. When the election results have been officially declared, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be deemed elected for the remainder of the term. No official shall be subject twice to recall during the term for which he was elected.

ARTICLE IV LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 1. The senate must be composed of not less than forty nor more than fifty-four members, and the house of representatives must be composed of not less than eighty nor more than one hundred eight members. These houses are jointly designated as the legislative assembly of the state of North Dakota.

Section 2. The legislative assembly shall fix the number of senators and representatives and divide the state into as many senatorial districts of compact and contiguous territory as there are senators. The districts thus ascertained and determined after the 1990 federal decennial census shall continue until the adjournment of the first regular session after each federal decennial census, or until changed by law.

The legislative assembly shall guarantee, as nearly as is practicable, that every elector is equal to every other elector in the state in the power to cast ballots for legislative candidates. A senator and at least two representatives must be apportioned to each senatorial district and be elected at large or from subdistricts from those districts. The legislative assembly may combine two senatorial districts only when a single member senatorial district includes a federal facility or federal installation, containing over two-thirds of the population of a single member senatorial district, and may provide for the election of senators at large and representatives at large or from subdistricts from those districts.

 **Section 3.** The legislative assembly shall establish by law a procedure whereby one-half of the members of the senate and one-half of the members of the house of representatives, as nearly as is practicable, are elected biennially.

Section 4. Senators and representatives must be elected for terms of four years.

Section 5. Each individual elected or appointed to the legislative assembly must be, on the day of the election or appointment, a qualified elector in the district from which the member was selected and must have been a resident of the state for one year immediately prior to that election. An individual may not serve in the legislative assembly unless the individual lives in the district from which selected.

Section 6. While serving in the legislative assembly, no member may hold any full-time appointive state office established by this constitution or designated by law. During the term for which elected, no member of the legislative assembly may be appointed to any full-time office that has been created by the legislative assembly. During the term for which elected, no member of the legislative assembly may be appointed to any full-time office for which the legislative assembly has increased the compensation in an amount greater than the general rate of increase provided to full-time state employees.

Section 7. The terms of members of the legislative assembly begin on the first day of December following their election.

The legislative assembly shall meet at the seat of government in the month of December following the election of the members thereof for organizational and orientation purposes as provided by law and shall thereafter recess until twelve noon on the first Tuesday after the third day in January or at such other time as may be prescribed by law but not later than the eleventh day of January.

Article IV: Legislative Branch

No regular session of the legislative assembly may exceed eighty natural days during the biennium. The organizational meeting of the legislative assembly may not be counted as part of those eighty natural days, nor may days spent in session at the call of the governor or while engaged in impeachment proceedings, be counted. Days spent in regular session need not be consecutive, and the legislative assembly may authorize its committees to meet at any time during the biennium. As used in this section, a "natural day" means a period of twenty-four consecutive hours.

Neither house may recess nor adjourn for more than three days without consent of the other house.

Section 8. The house of representatives shall elect one of its members to act as presiding officer at the beginning of each organizational session.

Section 9. If any person elected to either house of the legislative assembly shall offer or promise to give his vote or influence, in favor of, or against any measure or proposition pending or proposed to be introduced into the legislative assembly, in consideration, or upon conditions, that any other person elected to the same legislative assembly will give, or will promise or assent to give, his vote or influence in favor of or against any other measure or proposition, pending or proposed to be introduced into such legislative assembly, the person making such offer or promise shall be deemed guilty of solicitation of bribery. If any member of the legislative assembly, shall give his vote or influence for or against any measure or proposition, pending or proposed to be introduced into such legislative assembly, or offer, promise or assent so to do upon condition that any other member will give, promise or assent to give his vote or influence in favor of or against any other such measure or proposition pending or proposed to be introduced into such legislative assembly, or in consideration that any other member hath given his vote or influence, for or against any other measure or proposition in such legislative assembly, he shall be deemed guilty of bribery. And any person, member of the legislative assembly or person elected thereto, who shall be guilty of either such offenses, shall be expelled, and shall not thereafter be eligible to the legislative assembly, and, on the conviction thereof in the civil courts, shall be liable to such further penalty as may be prescribed by law.

Section 10. No member of the legislative assembly, expelled for corruption, and no person convicted of bribery, perjury or other infamous crime shall be eligible to the legislative assembly, or to any office in either branch thereof.

Section 11. The legislative assembly may provide by law a procedure to fill vacancies occurring in either house of the legislative assembly.

Section 12. A majority of the members elected to each house constitutes a quorum. A smaller number may adjourn from day to day and may compel attendance of absent members in a manner, and under a penalty, as may be provided by law.

* Each house is the judge of the qualifications of its members, but election contests are subject to judicial review as provided by law. If two or more candidates for the same office receive an equal and highest number of votes, the secretary of state shall choose one of them by the toss of a coin.

Each house shall determine its rules of procedure, and may punish its members or other persons for contempt or disorderly behavior in its presence. With the concurrence of two-thirds of its elected members, either house may expel a member.

Article IV: Legislative Branch

Section 13. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and a recorded vote on any question shall be taken at the request of one-sixth of those members present. No bill may become law except by a recorded vote of a majority of the members elected to each house, and the lieutenant governor is considered a member-elect of the senate when the lieutenant governor votes.

No law may be enacted except by a bill passed by both houses, and no bill may be amended on its passage through either house in a manner which changes its general subject matter. No bill may embrace more than one subject, which must be expressed in its title; but a law violating this provision is invalid only to the extent the subject is not so expressed.

Every bill must be read on two separate natural days, and the readings may be by title only unless a reading at length is demanded by one-fifth of the members present.

No bill may be amended, extended, or incorporated in any other bill by reference to its title only, except in the case of definitions and procedural provisions.

The presiding officer of each house shall sign all bills passed and resolutions adopted by the legislative assembly, and the fact of signing shall be entered at once in the journal.

* Every law, except as otherwise provided in this section, enacted by the legislative assembly during its eighty natural meeting days takes effect on August first after its filing with the secretary of state, or if filed on or after August first and before January first of the following year ninety days after its filing, or on a subsequent date if specified in the law unless, by a vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house, the legislative assembly declares it an emergency measure and includes the declaration in the Act. Every appropriation measure for support and maintenance of state departments and institutions and every tax measure that changes tax rates enacted by the legislative assembly take effect on July first after its filing with the secretary of state or on a subsequent date if specified in the law unless, by a vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house, the legislative assembly declares it an emergency measure and includes the declaration in the Act. An emergency measure takes effect upon its filing with the secretary of state or on a date specified in the measure. Every law enacted by a special session of the legislative assembly takes effect on a date specified in the Act.

* The legislative assembly shall enact all laws necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this constitution. Except as otherwise provided in this constitution, no local or special laws may be enacted, nor may the legislative assembly indirectly enact special or local laws by the partial repeal of a general law but laws repealing local or special laws may be enacted.

Section 14. All sessions of the legislative assembly, including the committee of the whole and meetings of legislative committees, must be open and public.

Section 15. Members of the legislative assembly are immune from arrest during their attendance at the sessions, and in going to or returning from the sessions, except in cases of felony. Members of the legislative assembly may not be questioned in any other place for any words used in any speech or debate in legislative proceedings.

* * **Section 16.** Any amendment to this constitution may be proposed in either house of the legislative assembly, and if agreed to upon a roll call by a majority of the members elected to each house, must be submitted to the electors and if a majority of the votes cast thereon are in the affirmative, the amendment is a part of this constitution.

Article IV TERM Limits only REFERENCE

ARTICLE XV TERM LIMITS

Section 1. An individual shall not serve as a member of the house of representatives for a cumulative period of time amounting to more than eight years. An individual shall not serve as a member of the senate for a cumulative period of time amounting to more than eight years. An individual shall not be eligible to serve a full or remaining term as member of the house of representatives or the senate if serving the full or remaining term would cause the individual to serve for a cumulative period of time amounting to more than eight years in that respective house.

Section 2. An individual shall not be elected to the office of governor more than twice. This provision shall not prevent the lieutenant governor from succeeding to the office of governor, nor prevent the secretary of state from acting as governor.

Section 3. The limitations established by this article shall have prospective effect only, and service as a member of the house of representatives, service as a member of the senate, and prior election to the office of governor shall not be counted against any service or election, respectively, of any individual that occurs after the effective date of this amendment. Service by the lieutenant governor in his capacity as president of the senate shall not count toward the cumulative amount of time an individual may serve as a member of the senate.

Section 4. Notwithstanding the legislative assembly's authority to propose amendments to this constitution under article IV, section 16 thereof, the legislative assembly shall not have authority to propose an amendment to this constitution to alter or repeal the term limitations established in section 1 of this article. The authority to propose an amendment to this constitution to alter or repeal the term limitations established in section 1 of this article is reserved to initiative petition of the people under article III of this constitution.

Section 5. This amendment shall be effective on the first day of January immediately following approval by voters.

Section 6. The provisions of this article are severable, and if any provision is held to be invalid, either on its face or as applied, the remaining provisions and their application shall not be affected thereby. In any case of a conflict between any provision of this article and any other provision of this constitution, the provisions of this article shall control.

Article XV - Term Limits
only references Article IV section 16
of No. Dakota Constitution

23.3026.02000

3/8/23

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3020

Introduced by

ANNUAL SESSIONS

Representatives Kasper, Headland, Kempenich, Koppelman, Lefor, Louser, Rohr, D. Ruby
Senators Larsen, Paulson, Vedaa

1 A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact sections 7 and 13 of article IV of the Constitution
2 of North Dakota, relating to annual sessions of the legislative assembly; and to provide an
3 effective date.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

4
5 This measure would require the legislative assembly to meet in a regular session each year for
6 at least fifty days and a maximum of sixty days and authorize the legislative assembly to
7 reconvene for additional days to override a veto. The amendment would become effective
8 January 1, 2025.

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

11 That the following proposed amendments to sections 7 and 13 of article IV of the
12 Constitution of North Dakota are agreed to and must be submitted to the qualified electors of
13 North Dakota at the general election to be held in 2024, in accordance with section 16 of
14 article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota. *GENERAL ELECTION 2024*

15 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 7 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota is
16 amended and reenacted as follows:

17 **Section 7.** The terms of members of the legislative assembly begin on the first day of
18 December following their election.

19 The legislative assembly shall meet at the seat of government in the month of December
20 following the election of the members thereof for organizational and orientation purposes as
21 provided by law and shall thereafter recess until twelve noon on the first Tuesday after the third-
22 day in January or at such other time as may be prescribed by law but not later than the eleventh-
23 day of January.

24 No regular session of the legislative assembly may exceed eighty natural days. The legislative
25 assembly shall meet for up to fifty business days during the biennium each calendar year. Upon

*Up to 50 days
Annually*

2/3 vote can extend up to 10 Addl Days

organ. session does not count

1 a two-thirds vote of each house, a regular session may be extended by up to ten additional
 2 days each year. The organizational meeting of the legislative assembly may not be counted as
 3 part of those eighty natural business days, nor may days spent in session at the call of the
 4 governor or, while engaged in impeachment proceedings, or when called by the legislative
 5 management to reconvene to reconsider a veto, be counted. Days spent in regular session
 6 need not be consecutive, and the legislative assembly may authorize its committees to meet at
 7 any time during the biennium year. As used in this section, a "natural business day" means a
 8 period of twenty-four consecutive hours on Monday through Friday of each week.

Call of GOVERNOR
OVERRIDE VETO
DAY NOT COUNT

9 Neither house may recess nor adjourn for more than three days without consent of the
10 other house.

11 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 13 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota is
12 amended and reenacted as follows:

13 **Section 13.** Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and a recorded vote on any
14 question shall be taken at the request of one-sixth of those members present. No bill may
15 become law except by a recorded vote of a majority of the members elected to each house, and
16 the lieutenant governor is considered a member-elect of the senate when the lieutenant
17 governor votes.

18 No law may be enacted except by a bill passed by both houses, and no bill may be
19 amended on its passage through either house in a manner which changes its general subject
20 matter. No bill may embrace more than one subject, which must be expressed in its title; but a
21 law violating this provision is invalid only to the extent the subject is not so expressed.

22 Every bill must be read on two separate natural business days, and the readings may be by
23 title only unless a reading at length is demanded by one-fifth of the members present.

24 No bill may be amended, extended, or incorporated in any other bill by reference to its title
25 only, except in the case of definitions and procedural provisions.

26 The presiding officer of each house shall sign all bills passed and resolutions adopted by
27 the legislative assembly, and the fact of signing shall be entered at once in the journal.

28 Every law, except as otherwise provided in this section, enacted by the legislative assembly
29 during its eighty natural meeting days takes effect on August first after its filing with the
30 secretary of state, or if filed on or after August first and before January first of the following year
31 ninety days after its filing, or on a subsequent date if specified in the law unless, by a vote of

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly

1 two-thirds of the members elected to each house, the legislative assembly declares it an
2 emergency measure and includes the declaration in the Act. Every appropriation measure for
3 support and maintenance of state departments and institutions and every tax measure that
4 changes tax rates enacted by the legislative assembly take effect on July first after its filing with
5 the secretary of state or on a subsequent date if specified in the law unless, by a vote of
6 two-thirds of the members elected to each house, the legislative assembly declares it an
7 emergency measure and includes the declaration in the Act. An emergency measure takes
8 effect upon its filing with the secretary of state or on a date specified in the measure. Every law
9 enacted by a special session of the legislative assembly takes effect on a date specified in the
10 Act.

11 The legislative assembly shall enact all laws necessary to carry into effect the provisions of
12 this constitution. Except as otherwise provided in this constitution, no local or special laws may
13 be enacted, nor may the legislative assembly indirectly enact special or local laws by the partial
14 repeal of a general law but laws repealing local or special laws may be enacted.

15 **SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** If approved by the electors, this measure becomes
16 effective on January 1, 2025.

Effective date: January 1, 2025

Written testimony on Engrossed House Concurrent Resolution 3020

Chairman Wobbema and Senate Workforce Development Committee Members

My name is Kevin Herrmann, 300 Fair St. SW, Beulah, ND. I am an independent North Dakota taxpayer.

I am opposed to Engrossed House Concurrent Resolution 3020. This resolution will change the current 80 day regular legislative session in a two year span to 100 days plus a possible extra 20 days. This resolution will make the taxpayers paid more in total salaries and reimbursement in lodging to legislators. What will be the other cost of paying other workers who are not legislators? I can't find the fiscal impact statement attach to this resolution showing the increase cost of adding more days for biennium legislative session. Why the top secret how much more the cost to taxpayer with this resolution?

On page 2, line 4 to line 5, the underline wording "or when called by the legislative management to reconvene to reconsider a veto". How many days would it take to legislate over the veto? Why would the underline wording not count as part of the total 120 days in this resolution? What is the total cost to reconvene for a veto? Where is the fiscal impact statement?

In past legislative sessions, there has been legislative bills relating to having annual sessions splitting the current 80 day legislative session in Article IV but was defeated in past legislative sessions. In the current 2023 legislative session, Engrossed House Bill 1001, section 8 on page 7, has one of the propose study item of the need to hold annual sessions. Unless section 8 of Engrossed House Bill 1001 is amended, there is no need of House Concurrent Resolution 3020.

Now in the 2023 legislative session, legislators are trying to use term limits and the amount of legislative bills introduced the reason for needing this resolution. I see at least 1/3 of legislative bills introduced as wasted time for everyone.

I am asking Senate Workforce Development Committee Members to give
Engrossed House Concurrent Resolution 3020 a DO NOT PASS recommendation.

Kevin Herrmann
300 Fair St. SW
Beulah, ND 58523
701-873-4163

No regular session of the legislative assembly may exceed eighty natural days during the biennium. The organizational meeting of the legislative assembly may not be counted as part of those eighty natural days, nor may days spent in session at the call of the governor or while engaged in impeachment proceedings, be counted. Days spent in regular session need not be consecutive, and the legislative assembly may authorize its committees to meet at any time during the biennium. As used in this section, a "natural day" means a period of twenty-four consecutive hours.

Neither house may recess nor adjourn for more than three days without consent of the other house.

Section 8. The house of representatives shall elect one of its members to act as presiding officer at the beginning of each organizational session.

Section 9. If any person elected to either house of the legislative assembly shall offer or promise to give his vote or influence, in favor of, or against any measure or proposition pending or proposed to be introduced into the legislative assembly, in consideration, or upon conditions, that any other person elected to the same legislative assembly will give, or will promise or assent to give, his vote or influence in favor of or against any other measure or proposition, pending or proposed to be introduced into such legislative assembly, the person making such offer or promise shall be deemed guilty of solicitation of bribery. If any member of the legislative assembly, shall give his vote or influence for or against any measure or proposition, pending or proposed to be introduced into such legislative assembly, or offer, promise or assent so to do upon condition that any other member will give, promise or assent to give his vote or influence in favor of or against any other such measure or proposition pending or proposed to be introduced into such legislative assembly, or in consideration that any other member hath given his vote or influence, for or against any other measure or proposition in such legislative assembly, he shall be deemed guilty of bribery. And any person, member of the legislative assembly or person elected thereto, who shall be guilty of either such offenses, shall be expelled, and shall not thereafter be eligible to the legislative assembly, and, on the conviction thereof in the civil courts, shall be liable to such further penalty as may be prescribed by law.

Section 10. No member of the legislative assembly, expelled for corruption, and no person convicted of bribery, perjury or other infamous crime shall be eligible to the legislative assembly, or to any office in either branch thereof.

Section 11. The legislative assembly may provide by law a procedure to fill vacancies occurring in either house of the legislative assembly.

Section 12. A majority of the members elected to each house constitutes a quorum. A smaller number may adjourn from day to day and may compel attendance of absent members in a manner, and under a penalty, as may be provided by law.

Each house is the judge of the qualifications of its members, but election contests are subject to judicial review as provided by law. If two or more candidates for the same office receive an equal and highest number of votes, the secretary of state shall choose one of them by the toss of a coin.

Each house shall determine its rules of procedure, and may punish its members or other persons for contempt or disorderly behavior in its presence. With the concurrence of two-thirds of its elected members, either house may expel a member.

ARTICLE IV LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 1. The senate must be composed of not less than forty nor more than fifty-four members, and the house of representatives must be composed of not less than eighty nor more than one hundred eight members. These houses are jointly designated as the legislative assembly of the state of North Dakota.

Section 2. The legislative assembly shall fix the number of senators and representatives and divide the state into as many senatorial districts of compact and contiguous territory as there are senators. The districts thus ascertained and determined after the 1990 federal decennial census shall continue until the adjournment of the first regular session after each federal decennial census, or until changed by law.

The legislative assembly shall guarantee, as nearly as is practicable, that every elector is equal to every other elector in the state in the power to cast ballots for legislative candidates. A senator and at least two representatives must be apportioned to each senatorial district and be elected at large or from subdistricts from those districts. The legislative assembly may combine two senatorial districts only when a single member senatorial district includes a federal facility or federal installation, containing over two-thirds of the population of a single member senatorial district, and may provide for the election of senators at large and representatives at large or from subdistricts from those districts.

Section 3. The legislative assembly shall establish by law a procedure whereby one-half of the members of the senate and one-half of the members of the house of representatives, as nearly as is practicable, are elected biennially.

Section 4. Senators and representatives must be elected for terms of four years.

Section 5. Each individual elected or appointed to the legislative assembly must be, on the day of the election or appointment, a qualified elector in the district from which the member was selected and must have been a resident of the state for one year immediately prior to that election. An individual may not serve in the legislative assembly unless the individual lives in the district from which selected.

Section 6. While serving in the legislative assembly, no member may hold any full-time appointive state office established by this constitution or designated by law. During the term for which elected, no member of the legislative assembly may be appointed to any full-time office that has been created by the legislative assembly. During the term for which elected, no member of the legislative assembly may be appointed to any full-time office for which the legislative assembly has increased the compensation in an amount greater than the general rate of increase provided to full-time state employees.

Section 7. The terms of members of the legislative assembly begin on the first day of December following their election.

The legislative assembly shall meet at the seat of government in the month of December following the election of the members thereof for organizational and orientation purposes as provided by law and shall thereafter recess until twelve noon on the first Tuesday after the third day in January or at such other time as may be prescribed by law but not later than the eleventh day of January.

Section 13. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and a recorded vote on any question shall be taken at the request of one-sixth of those members present. No bill may become law except by a recorded vote of a majority of the members elected to each house, and the lieutenant governor is considered a member-elect of the senate when the lieutenant governor votes.

No law may be enacted except by a bill passed by both houses, and no bill may be amended on its passage through either house in a manner which changes its general subject matter. No bill may embrace more than one subject, which must be expressed in its title; but a law violating this provision is invalid only to the extent the subject is not so expressed.

Every bill must be read on two separate natural days, and the readings may be by title only unless a reading at length is demanded by one-fifth of the members present.

No bill may be amended, extended, or incorporated in any other bill by reference to its title only, except in the case of definitions and procedural provisions.

The presiding officer of each house shall sign all bills passed and resolutions adopted by the legislative assembly, and the fact of signing shall be entered at once in the journal.

Every law, except as otherwise provided in this section, enacted by the legislative assembly during its eighty natural meeting days takes effect on August first after its filing with the secretary of state, or if filed on or after August first and before January first of the following year ninety days after its filing, or on a subsequent date if specified in the law unless, by a vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house, the legislative assembly declares it an emergency measure and includes the declaration in the Act. Every appropriation measure for support and maintenance of state departments and institutions and every tax measure that changes tax rates enacted by the legislative assembly take effect on July first after its filing with the secretary of state or on a subsequent date if specified in the law unless, by a vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house, the legislative assembly declares it an emergency measure and includes the declaration in the Act. An emergency measure takes effect upon its filing with the secretary of state or on a date specified in the measure. Every law enacted by a special session of the legislative assembly takes effect on a date specified in the Act.

The legislative assembly shall enact all laws necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this constitution. Except as otherwise provided in this constitution, no local or special laws may be enacted, nor may the legislative assembly indirectly enact special or local laws by the partial repeal of a general law but laws repealing local or special laws may be enacted.

Section 14. All sessions of the legislative assembly, including the committee of the whole and meetings of legislative committees, must be open and public.

Section 15. Members of the legislative assembly are immune from arrest during their attendance at the sessions, and in going to or returning from the sessions, except in cases of felony. Members of the legislative assembly may not be questioned in any other place for any words used in any speech or debate in legislative proceedings.

Section 16. Any amendment to this constitution may be proposed in either house of the legislative assembly, and if agreed to upon a roll call by a majority of the members elected to each house, must be submitted to the electors and if a majority of the votes cast thereon are in the affirmative, the amendment is a part of this constitution.

ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3020

A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact sections 7 and 13 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to sessions of the legislative assembly; and to provide an effective date.

STATEMENT OF INTENT**REMOVE AND REPLACE (R&R) WITH:**

This measure would require the legislative assembly to meet in a regular session each biennium for up to eighty days. If the legislative assembly determines that it is necessary to meet annually, up to forty days of the authorized biennium total may be used. If it is determined that the legislative assembly requires more time in regular session to complete the business of the assembly, up to 10 additional days per annum may be added to the schedule upon a two-thirds vote of each house, and authorize the legislative assembly to reconvene for additional days to override a veto.

P1 L25 R&R "eighty" for "one hundred" delete "Upon a"

P2 L1 R&R "two-thirds..." L2 "days each biennium." WITH: If the legislative assembly determines that it is necessary to meet annually, up to forty days of the authorized biennium total may be used. If it is determined that the legislative assembly requires more time in regular session to complete the business of the assembly, up to 10 additional days per annum may be added to the schedule upon a two-thirds vote of each house.

P2 L3 R&R "one hundred" with "eighty"