

2025 HOUSE AGRICULTURE

HCR 3019

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Agriculture Committee Room JW327C, State Capitol

HCR 3019
2/13/2025

A concurrent resolution congratulating Donald J. Trump on his inauguration as President of the United States.

9:29 a.m. Chairman Beltz opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman Beltz, Vice Chairman Hauck, Representatives Anderson, Henderson, Holle, Kiefert, Nehring, Olson, Rios, Schreiber-Beck, Tveit, Vollmer

Members absent: Representatives Dobervich, Hoverson

Discussion Topics:

- Assassination attempts
- Tax cut policies
- Fair trade agreements
- Energy independence

9:29 a.m. Representative Dawson Holle, District 31, Mandan, ND, introduced, testified and submitted testimony #37514.

9:34 a.m. Representative Nehring moved a Do Pass.

9:34 a.m. Representative Henderson seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Mike Beltz	Y
Representative Dori Hauck	Y
Representative Karen A. Anderson	Y
Representative Gretchen Dobervich	AB
Representative Donna Henderson	Y
Representative Dawson Holle	Y
Representative Jeff Hoverson	AB
Representative Dwight Kiefert	Y
Representative Dennis Nehring	Y
Representative SuAnn Olson	Y
Representative Nico Rios	Y
Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	Y
Representative Bill Tveit	Y
Representative Daniel R. Vollmer	Y

Motion passed 12-0-2.

9:35 a.m. Representative Holle will carry the bill.

Additional written testimony:

Ritika Gerdes, West Fargo, ND, submitted testimony in opposition #37241.
Devin Holle, Mandan, ND, submitted testimony in favor #37517.

9:35 a.m. Chairman Beltz closed the hearing.

Diane Lillis, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HCR 3019 ([25.3071.01000](#))

Agriculture Committee (Rep. Beltz, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3019 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 3019, which seeks to congratulate Donald J. Trump on his inauguration as President of the United States. While recognizing a new administration is customary, endorsing this administration is inappropriate due to its extensive legal violations, threats to democracy, disregard for federal court rulings, dangerous policies, and involvement in highly controversial matters.

Defiance of Federal Court Orders & Legal Violations

President Trump has repeatedly undermined the judiciary's authority:

- Refusal to comply with federal court orders, such as withholding federal funding despite clear judicial mandates to release it.
- Violating legal and ethical standards by interfering with active investigations, dismissing prosecutors and inspectors general working on cases involving his administration or associates.
- Ignoring court rulings on immigration and environmental protections, continuing actions that were explicitly blocked by judicial decisions.

Pardoning Dangerous Criminals & Undermining Public Safety

The Trump administration has taken dangerous steps that directly threaten public safety:

- Granting clemency to over 1,500 individuals involved in the January 6th attack, including convicted extremists like the Proud Boys and Oath Keepers.
- Pardoning individuals convicted of violent crimes and fraud, including people who were directly involved in violent assaults on law enforcement during the Capitol insurrection.
- By freeing individuals convicted of serious offenses, the administration has put public safety at risk and undermined the rule of law.

Government Corruption, Retaliation, and Executive Overreach

The administration has taken steps to weaken government accountability:

- Firing key officials, including federal prosecutors and inspectors general, who were tasked with investigating corruption and holding the administration accountable.
- Removing oversight mechanisms, such as suspending the enforcement of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), which discourages bribery in international business.
- Attempting to eliminate agencies, including efforts to close the Department of Education and reduce the role of agencies like USAID. These actions would severely harm education access and international development programs that help global populations.

Economic and Trade Instability

Trump's economic policies have led to instability and damage:

- Imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum, which have sparked retaliatory actions and increased tensions with trading partners like Canada and Mexico.
- Creating market instability through erratic trade policies, further disrupting the economy and harming small businesses.

DOGE, Elon Musk's Overreach, and Federal Authority

Another critical issue is the involvement of Elon Musk in the DOGE cryptocurrency market, and the Trump administration's support for Musk's unregulated market influence.

- Elon Musk's overreach in the DOGE cryptocurrency market through social media manipulations and his influence over digital currencies is both irresponsible and illegal. Musk has attempted to dictate market movements in a way that creates instability and risks investor harm.
- The administration has failed to regulate these market activities, allowing unchecked influence by a private individual (Musk) who does not hold governmental authority.
- Both the President and Musk are overstepping their bounds by attempting to dictate federal budgetary matters and attempting to close federal departments, something that is the constitutional responsibility of Congress, not private individuals or the executive branch.

Conclusion

Endorsing President Trump's administration through HCR 3019 would signal acceptance of an administration marked by corruption, lawlessness, and dangerous policies that undermine democracy, accountability, and public safety. Instead of celebrating these actions, we should demand respect for the rule of law, public safety, government accountability, and responsible economic and international policies.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote NO on HCR 3019.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



North Dakota House of Representatives

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600 EAST BOULEVARD
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Representative Dawson Holle

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COMMITTEES:

Human Services
Political Subdivisions

Good Morning Chairman Beltz and Members of the Agriculture Committee,

For the record, my name is Dawson Holle, and I am honored to represent the great people of District 31 in the North Dakota House of Representatives. Today, I stand before you to introduce House Concurrent Resolution 3019, a resolution that formally congratulates President Donald J. Trump on his election victory.

In the 2024 election, President Trump demonstrated overwhelming support from the people of North Dakota, winning 51 out of 53 counties and securing 66.96% of the statewide vote. These results reflect the deep trust and confidence that North Dakotans have placed in his leadership and the policies he has championed. His vision for America aligns with the values of our state—faith, family, hard work, and independence.

Furthermore, President Trump survived two assassination attempts, the most recent of which was a harrowing moment that could have changed the course of history. In what I believe was an act of divine intervention, he moved his head at precisely the right angle to avoid what could have been a fatal attack. Regardless of one's political views, it is undeniable that these events were unprecedented in modern American history, and his survival is a testament to his resilience and unwavering commitment to serving the American people.

This resolution is more than just a formality—it is a recognition of President Trump's leadership and the significant impact his policies have had on North Dakota. As a state deeply rooted in agriculture, energy production, and rural values, we have benefited greatly from his efforts to reduce regulatory burdens, promote economic growth, and put American farmers and workers first.

Under President Trump's leadership, we saw historic tax cuts that provided relief to small businesses, farmers, and working families. These policies allowed businesses to reinvest in their operations, expand their workforce, and strengthen their local communities. Additionally, his administration prioritized fair trade agreements, including the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which brought stronger protections and expanded market opportunities for North Dakota's agricultural producers.

President Trump also championed American energy independence, which has been a critical issue for our state. His administration rolled back excessive federal regulations, expanded domestic energy production, and created a business-friendly environment for North Dakota's oil, gas, and coal industries. These policies not only provided high-paying jobs for thousands of North Dakotans but also strengthened our state's economy by allowing us to utilize our natural resources responsibly and efficiently.

By passing HCR 3019, we have an opportunity to acknowledge President Trump's leadership and his lasting contributions to North Dakota and the nation. The people of our state have consistently demonstrated their strong support for him, and this resolution serves as a reflection of that appreciation. It is also a reaffirmation of our commitment to the principles of limited government, economic freedom, and the hardworking spirit that defines North Dakota.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing HCR 3019. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I am happy to stand for any questions.

Dawson Holle
Representative, District 31

Dear Chairman Beltz and Members of the Agriculture Committee,

My name is Devin Holle, and I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 3019. I wish I could be there in person to speak with you today, but at the moment, I'm in welding class at Mandan High School. Even though I can't be in the room, I still wanted to share my thoughts on why I believe this resolution is important.

One of the unique things about having an older brother serving as a state representative is that I can share ideas with him and encourage him to introduce bills that I believe would benefit North Dakota. HCR 3019 is one of those ideas. I believe this resolution is a meaningful way to honor President Donald Trump and recognize the impact he has had on our country.

President Trump has been a strong advocate for American farmers, ranchers, and rural communities. His policies focused on reducing regulations, supporting American energy independence, and standing up for agriculture on the world stage. These actions had a direct impact on states like North Dakota, where farming and ranching are not just jobs but a way of life.

By passing this resolution, North Dakota would be acknowledging the leadership and policies that helped strengthen our agricultural industry and economy. It's important to recognize leaders who have stood up for the values and industries that are vital to our state.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony. I appreciate the work you all do for North Dakota, and I hope you will support this resolution.

Sincerely,
Devin Holle

2025 SENATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

HCR 3019

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Workforce Development Committee Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

HCR 3019
3/13/2025

A concurrent resolution congratulating Donald J. Trump on his inauguration as President of the United States.

9:31 a.m. Chairman Wobbema opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Wobbema, Vice-Chairman Axtman, Senator Boschee, Senator Larson, Senator Powers.

Discussion Topics:

- North Dakota Election Outcomes

9:31 a.m. Representative Dawson Holle introduced the bill and submitted testimony #41176 and #41178.

9:34 a.m. Andrew Alexis Varvel testified in opposition and submitted testimony #41280.

9:41 a.m. Senator Larson moved Do Pass.

9:41 a.m. Senator Powers seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Mike Wobbema	Y
Senator Michelle Axtman	Y
Senator Josh Boschee	N
Senator Diane Larson	Y
Senator Michelle Powers	Y

Motion passed 4-1-0.

Senator Powers will carry the bill.

9:41 a.m. Chairman Wobbema closed the hearing.

Andrew Ficek, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HCR 3019 ([25.3071.01000](#))

Workforce Development Committee (Sen. Wobbema, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (4 YEAS, 1 NAY, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3019 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This resolution does not affect workforce development.



North Dakota House of Representatives

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COMMITTEES:

Human Services
Political Subdivisions

Good morning, Chairman Wobbema and Members of the Senate Workforce Development Committee,

For the record, my name is Dawson Holle, and I am honored to represent the great people of District 31 in the North Dakota House of Representatives. Today, I stand before you to introduce House Concurrent Resolution 3019, a resolution that formally congratulates President Donald J. Trump on his election victory.

In the 2024 election, President Trump demonstrated overwhelming support from the people of North Dakota, winning 51 out of 53 counties and securing 66.96% of the statewide vote. These results reflect the deep trust and confidence that North Dakotans have placed in his leadership and the policies he has championed. His vision for America aligns with the values of our state—faith, family, hard work, and independence.

Furthermore, President Trump survived two assassination attempts, the most recent of which was a harrowing moment that could have changed the course of history. In what I believe was an act of divine intervention, he moved his head at precisely the right angle to avoid what could have been a fatal attack. Regardless of one's political views, it is undeniable that these events were unprecedented in modern American history, and his survival is a testament to his resilience and unwavering commitment to serving the American people.

This resolution is more than just a formality—it is a recognition of President Trump's leadership and the significant impact his policies have had on North Dakota. As a state deeply rooted in agriculture, energy production, and rural values, we have benefited greatly from his efforts to reduce regulatory burdens, promote economic growth, and put American farmers and workers first.

Under President Trump's leadership, we saw historic tax cuts that provided relief to small businesses, farmers, and working families. These policies allowed businesses to reinvest in their operations, expand their workforce, and strengthen their local communities. Additionally, his administration prioritized fair trade agreements, including the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which brought stronger protections and expanded market opportunities for North Dakota's agricultural producers.

President Trump also championed American energy independence, which has been a critical issue for our state. His administration rolled back excessive federal regulations, expanded domestic energy production, and created a business-friendly environment for North Dakota's oil, gas, and coal industries. These policies not only provided high-paying jobs for thousands of North Dakotans but also strengthened our state's economy by allowing us to utilize our natural resources responsibly and efficiently.

By passing HCR 3019, we have an opportunity to acknowledge President Trump's leadership and his lasting contributions to North Dakota and the nation. The people of our state have consistently demonstrated their strong support for him, and this resolution serves as a reflection of that appreciation. It is also a reaffirmation of our commitment to the principles of limited government, economic freedom, and the hardworking spirit that defines North Dakota.

Before I conclude, I was asked to bring this resolution by my little brother who is a Sophomore at Mandan High School. I was truly honored that he's taken an interest in what his big brother is doing. Unfortunately, he's at a dairy conference in Iowa and is unable to give testimony in person today.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing HCR 3019. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I am happy to stand for any questions.

Dawson Holle
Representative, District 31

Dear Chairman Wobbema and Members of the Workforce Development Committee,

My name is Devin Holle, and I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 3019. I wish I could be there in person to speak with you today, but at the moment, I'm in Iowa at a dairy conference. Even though I can't be in the room, I still wanted to share my thoughts on why I believe this resolution is important.

One of the unique things about having an older brother serving as a state representative is that I can share ideas with him and encourage him to introduce bills that I believe would benefit North Dakota. HCR 3019 is one of those ideas. I believe this resolution is a meaningful way to honor President Donald Trump and recognize the impact he has had on our country.

President Trump has been a strong advocate for American farmers, ranchers, and rural communities. His policies focused on reducing regulations, supporting American energy independence, and standing up for agriculture on the world stage. These actions had a direct impact on states like North Dakota, where farming and ranching are not just jobs but a way of life.

By passing this resolution, North Dakota would be acknowledging the leadership and policies that helped strengthen our agricultural industry and economy. It's important to recognize leaders who have stood up for the values and industries that are vital to our state.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony. I appreciate the work you all do for North Dakota, and I hope you will support this resolution.

Sincerely,
Devin Holle

Senate Workforce Development Committee

House Concurrent Resolution 3019

Andrew Alexis Varvel

Fort Lincoln Room

March 13, 2025

Chairman Wobbema,
Madame Vice Chairman Axtman
and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I live in Bismarck.

Please say **NO** to House Concurrent Resolution 3019.

Although I would not normally speak on a resolution such as this one, I have some important points to make.

House Concurrent Resolution 3019 is an expression of joy which celebrates the strength of Donald Trump's victory in North Dakota.

This is understandable. Donald Trump has struck a chord among American voters, and has greatly influenced our politics and culture.

Yet, let's look at House Concurrent Resolution 3019 in another way.

Please consider that Leonard Peltier is now back in Belcourt.

Let's imagine, for the sake of argument, if the North Dakota Legislature were to pass a resolution congratulating Leonard Peltier for getting out of prison and welcoming him home to North Dakota.

This would be hard to imagine, wouldn't it?

After all, Leonard Peltier is a convicted felon accused of murder and a controversial figure who is both beloved by his supporters and hated by his enemies. Sending a letter of congratulations to Leonard Peltier would promote feelings of joy among his ardent supporters. It would also be divisive, and serve no good purpose.

The essential difference between Trump and Peltier is power.

This resolution speaks to who has power, and who does not.

This resolution is like spiking the football in the end zone.

On lines 13-14, HCR 3019 refers to the following:

“...strengthening the United States through sound governance, a robust economy, and the promotion of unity among the citizens...”

I would not equate Elon Musk's rampage through federal institutions with “sound governance.” I would not equate reckless tariffs against Canada which threaten the existence of our auto industry with “a robust economy.” Yet, I will say that Donald Trump has been wonderful for promoting unity – among Canadians, that is.

Donald Trump is becoming widely hated north of the border.

And I mean ***hated***.

Look at line 20. No president with a “steadfast adherence to the founding principles of our nation” would ever call himself a king.

Not on **Truth Social**. Not anywhere.

At the Constitutional Convention of 1787, the idea of elective monarchy was considered. And rejected as a founding principle.

In less than two months since his inauguration, President Trump has instituted the most radical administration in generations, promoted chaos in our civil service, and uprooted key functions such as food safety, disease prevention, firefighting, and feeding the hungry.

If you want to send a message to Canadians that you endorse President Trump's tariffs as a way to coercively annex Canada, then passing this resolution would be a great way to do it. Canadians are in a bad mood right now, so don't be surprised if the Canadian government interprets this resolution to be an open invitation to target North Dakota products with retaliatory economic sanctions.

If you, in your heart of hearts, want to endorse everything that President Trump has accomplished so far, then voting for this resolution would make a lot of sense. But don't imagine that passing this resolution will promote unity among American citizens.

I can assure you – it won't.

So, please give HCR 3019 a **DO NOT PASS** recommendation.

Thank you. I am open for questions from the committee.