

2025 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HCR 3023

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Political Subdivisions Committee Room JW327B, State Capitol

HCR 3023
2/13/2025

A concurrent resolution affirming the 69th Legislative Assembly's commitment to ensuring state-funded essential services remain fully funded and operational regardless of changes in federal funding allocations.

2:34 p.m. Chairman Longmuir opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Longmuir, Vice-Chairman Jonas, Representatives Bolinske, Davis, Hager, Hatlestad, Heilman, Klemin, Motschenbacher

Members Absent: Vice-Chairman Fegley, Representatives Ostlie, Toman, Warrey

Discussion Topics:

- North Dakota agriculture
- North Dakota critical services

2:34 p.m. Representative Jayme Davis, North Dakota Representative for District 9, introduced the bill and provided testimony #37660 and #37661.

2:39 p.m. Erin Ourada, Administrator at Western Plains Public Health, testified in favor and provided testimony #37612.

2:40 p.m. Christina Sambor, North Dakota Human Rights Coalition, testified in favor.

2:46 p.m. Representative Hatlestad moved a Do Pass.

2:47 p.m. Representative Hatlestad withdrew his motion.

2:48 p.m. Representative Motschenbacher moved to Amend LC:25.3097.01001, testimony #37661.

2:48 p.m. Representative Jonas seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	Y
Representative Clayton Fegley	A
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Macy Bolinske	Y
Representative Jayme Davis	Y
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Patrick R. Hatlestad	Y
Representative Matthew Heilman	Y
Representative Lawrence R. Klemin	Y

Representative Mike Motschenbacher	Y
Representative Mitch Ostlie	A
Representative Nathan Toman	A
Representative Jonathan Warrey	A

2:49 p.m. Motion passed 9-0-4

2:49 p.m. Representative Hatlestad moved a Do Pass as Amended.

2:49 p.m. Representative Heilman seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	Y
Representative Clayton Fegley	A
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Macy Bolinske	Y
Representative Jayme Davis	Y
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Patrick R. Hatlestad	Y
Representative Matthew Heilman	Y
Representative Lawrence R. Klemin	Y
Representative Mike Motschenbacher	Y
Representative Mitch Ostlie	A
Representative Nathan Toman	A
Representative Jonathan Warrey	A

2:50 p.m. Motion passed 9-0-4

2:51 p.m. Representative Davis will carry the bill.

2:51 p.m. Unanimous decision to be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Additional written testimony:

Jessica Duffy, LaMoure, North Dakota, submitted testimony in favor #36254

2:52 p.m. Chairman Longmuir closed the hearing.

Wyatt Armstrong, Committee Clerk

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

MB
2/13/25
1 of 2

Introduced by

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3023

Representatives Davis, Brown, Foss, Schneider, Dobervich, Ista

Senator Boschee

1 A concurrent resolution affirming the 69th Legislative Assembly's commitment to ensuring
2 state-funded essential services remain fully funded and operational regardless of changes in
3 federal funding allocations.

4 **WHEREAS**, North Dakota citizens rely on a stable and functional government to provide
5 essential services, including K-12 education, law enforcement, public health, infrastructure,
6 agricultural programs, and economic development; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the potential for federal funding disruptions presents a risk to critical state
8 programs, affecting both urban and rural communities, including the state's farmers and
9 ranchers, along with the state's tribal nations;

10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Legislative Assembly stands committed to supporting long-term solutions
12 that reduce dependency on federal uncertainty and reinforce state-level resilience in
13 governance and economic development; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the State of North Dakota has a duty to ensure continuity of government
15 operations and maintain essential services for the well-being and safety of all its residents;

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

18 That the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly affirms its commitment to ensuring state-funded
19 essential services, including education, law enforcement, infrastructure, agricultural programs,
20 and public health remain fully funded and operational, regardless of changes in federal funding
21 allocations; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly urges the Governor
2 and state agencies to assess potential financial impacts of federal funding uncertainties and
3 identify solutions to mitigate disruptions to vital programs; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly urges the State of
5 North Dakota to engage with federal partners to advocate for the timely restoration of funding
6 that directly impacts the well-being of North Dakota citizens; and

7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly urges the State of
8 North Dakota to foster continued collaboration with tribal nations to ensure shared governance
9 in maintaining essential services and economic stability for impacted communities; and

10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
11 to the Governor of North Dakota and each member of the North Dakota Congressional
12 Delegation.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HCR 3023**

Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. Longmuir, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS (25.3097.01001)** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR** (9 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 4 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3023 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

I support bill 3023 to fully fund essential services for the people of North Dakota. Our people rely on essential services for their safety, health, education, infrastructure and more. These are services that empower our citizens to work, live and play in this state by ensuring that basic needs are met. As North Dakotans we can support each other and the people of this state by ensuring local support for our schools, public safety, our overall health and infrastructure. We strive for local control and this bill ensures that we are ready to support the people of North Dakota and maintain North Dakota as great state to live, work and pay.

SUPPORT for bill 3023 shows support for the wellbeing for citizens of North Dakota.

House Political Subdivisions Committee

HCR 3023

February 13, 2025

Chairperson Longmuir and members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee:

I am Erin Ourada, the administrator of Western Plains Public Health (formerly Custer Health), a five-county public health unit based in Mandan. WPPH provides local public health services to Grant, Mercer, Morton, Oliver and Sioux Counties.

I am providing testimony in support of HCR 3023, which affirms the state's commitment to ensuring state-funded essential services remain fully funded and operational regardless of changes in federal funding allocations. WPPH supports the efforts of this resolution to ensure that K-12 education, law enforcement, public health, infrastructure, agricultural programs, and economic development continue to be funded at a level that supports North Dakota residents. These services are the core of our state's health and safety. For instance, our nursing, environmental health, and maternal child health services along with our emergency preparedness efforts rely on stable funding to remain accessible to all residents. Fluctuations in federal funding can create uncertainty, making it difficult for local agencies to plan and sustain critical services.

Public health plays a foundational role in keeping our communities safe and thriving. Ensuring stable funding for these essential services is not just an investment in health—it's an investment in North Dakota's future. I urge you to support HCR 3023 and uphold the state's commitment to its residents. Thank you for your ongoing support and for considering this concurrent resolution.

Respectfully submitted by,

Erin Ourada, MPH, REHS/RS
403 Burlington St SE
Mandan, ND 58554
701-667-3370



North Dakota House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL
600 EAST BOULEVARD
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



Representative Jayme Davis

District 9
601 John Street
Rolette, ND 58366-7209
jdavis@ndlegis.gov

COMMITTEES:

Human Services
Political Subdivisions

February 11, 2025

Good Morning Chairman Longmuir, Vice Chair Fegley, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present House Concurrent Resolution No. 3023, which reaffirms North Dakota's commitment to ensuring that our essential services—education, law enforcement, infrastructure, public health, and now, through my proposed amendment, agricultural programs—remain fully funded and operational, regardless of changes in federal funding allocations.

North Dakota has always prided itself on self-reliance. We are a state built on the hard work of our farmers, ranchers, small business owners, and law enforcement officers who ensure our communities remain safe. But today, we face increasing uncertainty—federal funding decisions in Washington can shift overnight, leaving our state vulnerable. And history has shown us that when these funds are disrupted, it's our rural communities, our agricultural producers, and our law enforcement officers who pay the highest price.

We must take a stand. We must ensure that North Dakota does not become a state dependent on the whims of Congress but rather a state that takes control of its own destiny.

North Dakotans understand the importance of conservative budgeting, responsible spending, and protecting taxpayers from unnecessary burdens. This resolution is not about expanding government—it's about ensuring that the government we have functions effectively, even in times of financial instability.

For decades, North Dakota has benefited from federal support in areas like transportation, law enforcement grants, education, and farm relief programs. But we cannot assume that these dollars will always flow as they have in the past. If Washington fails to uphold its commitments, do we simply let our law enforcement agencies struggle? Do we allow our schools to fall behind? Do we leave our farmers and ranchers without the support they need to feed America?

Absolutely not. The strength of North Dakota lies in our ability to stand on our own two feet. This resolution sends a clear message: we will prioritize state-level planning, ensuring that our essential services remain intact, no matter what happens at the federal level.

I am asking for this committee's support in amending this resolution to specifically include agricultural programs. Agriculture is the backbone of North Dakota. It fuels our economy, feeds our families, and sustains our way of life. But our farmers and ranchers are facing increasing challenges—from rising input costs to unpredictable market conditions and federal regulations that do not always reflect the realities of life on the plains.

When federal disaster relief or farm support payments are delayed—or worse, cut entirely—our agricultural producers are left without a safety net. We cannot afford to let bureaucratic indecision in Washington dictate the survival of North Dakota's most vital industry.

By including agricultural programs in this resolution, we affirm our commitment to protecting the very people who put food on our tables. It is not just about supporting an industry—it is about securing North Dakota's economic future.

This resolution is a call to action. It urges our state agencies to assess potential financial risks from federal funding disruptions and develop proactive solutions. It encourages engagement with our federal partners to restore funding where necessary. Most importantly, it reinforces our commitment to collaboration—whether with local governments, our tribal nations, or the hardworking people who make North Dakota what it is today.

I ask for your support in passing this resolution, with the amendment to include agriculture, so that North Dakota can continue to lead with strength, self-reliance, and unwavering support for our essential services.

Thank you, and I welcome any questions.

25.3097.01001
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council
staff for Representative Davis
February 7, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

Introduced by

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3023

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