Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

## **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3021**

Introduced by

24

to eastern North Dakota; and

Representative D. Johnson

Senator Kreun

1	A concurrent resolution urging Congress and the President of the United States to fulfill the
2	federal government's promises to North Dakota, allow the utilization of the Garrison Diversion
3	Unit facilities, including the McClusky Canal and the Snake Creek pumping plant, as a water
4	supply for eastern and central North Dakota, irrigation, and for all other authorized project
5	purposes, and not deauthorize or repurpose any part of the Garrison Diversion Unit.
6	WHEREAS, the federal government invested millions of dollars designing and constructing
7	the Garrison Diversion Unit; and
8	WHEREAS, the federal government promised North Dakota one million acres of irrigation
9	and a water supply for eastern and central North Dakota, among other things, in exchange for
10	hundreds of thousands of acres of prime river bottom land to build the Garrison Dam, a promise
11	that has never been fulfilled; and
12	WHEREAS, the operation of the Garrison Diversion Unit does not violate the Boundary
13	Waters Treaty of 1909 with Canada; and
14	WHEREAS, the Dakota Water Resources Act of 2000 recognizes the dire need for a
15	reliable, high-quality water supply in eastern North Dakota; and
16	WHEREAS, after studies and reports authorized under the Dakota Water Resources Act of
17	2000, the United States Bureau of Reclamation's needs and options report clearly concluded
18	there is a significant need for a municipal, rural, and industrial water supply in eastern North
19	Dakota; and
20	WHEREAS, the environmental impact statement, developed jointly by the Bureau of
21	Reclamation and North Dakota, represented by the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District,
22	further identifies the Missouri River as the most reliable water source and utilizing the Garrison
23	Diversion Unit principal supply works as the most cost-effective way to supply the needed water

1 WHEREAS, a report by the United States Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector 2 General recommended the Garrison Diversion Unit be deauthorized by the federal government; 3 and 4 WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation on more than one occasion supported title transfer 5 of the Garrison Diversion Unit to North Dakota, but with restrictions that made the title transfer 6 unfeasible; and 7 WHEREAS, representatives of the Bureau of Reclamation conducted limited sensing 8 sessions in North Dakota, and were told by citizens of North Dakota to utilize the Garrison 9 Diversion Unit project and not repurpose it; 10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF 11 NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN: 12 That the Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly urges Congress and the President of the United 13 States to fulfill the federal government's promises to North Dakota, allow the utilization of the 14 Garrison Diversion Unit facilities, including the McClusky Canal and the Snake Creek pumping 15 plant, as a water supply for eastern and central North Dakota, irrigation, and for all other 16 authorized project purposes, and not deauthorize or repurpose any part of the Garrison 17 Diversion Unit; and 18 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District be 19 requested to study the desirability, feasibility, and affordability of taking title to the Garrison 20 Diversion Unit and utilizing it for authorized project purposes; and 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution 22 to the President of the United States and each member of the North Dakota Congressional 23 Delegation.