

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3013

Introduced by

Representatives Cory, Dockter, Howe, Lefor, Louser, Mock, O'Brien, Pyle, Strinden

Senators Meyer, Poolman

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying issues
2 related to employment restrictions in public assistance programs.

3 **WHEREAS**, workforce shortage issues have been identified as a major challenge for
4 business development in North Dakota; and

5 **WHEREAS**, businesses are seeking incentives for workers to fill shortfalls in the labor
6 market; and

7 **WHEREAS**, some workforce issues could be resolved by allowing employees to work
8 additional hours when available; and

9 **WHEREAS**, some public assistance programs restrict eligibility based on total number of
10 hours worked by employees; and

11 **WHEREAS**, total hours worked is not always an indicator of the needs an individual may
12 have for receiving public assistance; and

13 **WHEREAS**, finding means to allow employees to work additional hours without
14 automatically losing public assistance benefits may be a way of addressing some labor
15 shortage issues; and

16 **WHEREAS**, employment and benefits have been impacted by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic,
17 commonly known as COVID-19; and

18 **WHEREAS**, changes to federal benefits should be monitored and tracked to ensure the
19 state's public assistance programs remain flexible; and

20 **WHEREAS**, one method for addressing labor shortage issue may be to encourage and
21 enable employees willing to work additional hours to do so without losing benefits;

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

24 That the Legislative Management consider studying issues relating to employment
25 restrictions in public assistance programs; and

- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and
- 2 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
- 3 the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly.