

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4063

Introduced by

Senators G. Nelson, Mathern

Representatives Dorso, Boucher

(Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to continue to fund the Northern Great Plains
2 Research Laboratory.

3 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory was founded in 1912 and
4 operates on a budget of \$2.6 million; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory supports North Dakota and
6 Northern Great Plains agriculture through an integrated program that combines soil and crop
7 management and conservation, irrigation and water management, forage and grassland
8 management, and forage improvement; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory has virtually unparalleled
10 facilities, both in terms of land resources and in terms of the combination of different soil, plant,
11 and animal science specializations; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory has generated critical
13 research findings regarding the conversion of conservation reserve program land to cropland;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory has generated critical
16 research findings regarding the importance of shelterbelts to agriculture in the Northern Great
17 Plains states and the viability and hardiness of certain tree varieties for use as shelterbelts; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the President's fiscal year 1998 budget proposes an appropriation of
19 \$726.8 million for the Agricultural Research Service, and spending proposed for certain
20 programs within the service necessitates the termination of other research programs and the
21 closure of research facilities, including the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the continued funding of the Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory is
23 necessary to ensure both the continued viability of North Dakota agriculture and sustainable
24 food production in the future;

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

3 That the Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly urges Congress to continue to fund the
4 Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory; and

5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
6 resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture, and to each
7 member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.