

Introduced by

Senators Miller, Klein, Wanzek

Representatives Headland, D. Johnson, M. Nelson

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to establish food labeling standards, direct the
2 clarification of voluntary food labeling standards, and provide for a review of foods derived
3 through the use of biotechnology.

4 **WHEREAS**, the United States Food and Drug Administration, the American Medical
5 Association, the World Health Organization, Health Canada, the United States Department of
6 Agriculture, the National Academy of Sciences, the United Nations Food and Agriculture
7 Organization, and the European Food Safety Authority, among others, have determined that
8 genetically modified crops grow in the same fashion as those that are not genetically modified
9 and that foods produced with genetically modified ingredients are safe for human consumption;
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, genetically modified technology adds desirable traits from nature, without
12 introducing anything unnatural and without using chemicals to increase food production; and

13 **WHEREAS**, genetically modified technology has been used to produce food products for
14 more than twenty-five years; and

15 **WHEREAS**, seventy to eighty percent of the foods consumed in this country, both at home
16 and away from home, contain genetically modified ingredients or are genetically modified whole
17 products; and

18 **WHEREAS**, genetically modified crops are produced on a sustainable basis; and

19 **WHEREAS**, genetically modified technology is essential for rapid crop adaptation to climatic
20 changes and prevalent diseases and ultimately essential to ensure the long-term sustainable
21 production of an adequate, wholesome, and economical food supply; and

22 **WHEREAS**, a patchwork of local and state mandatory labeling laws and regulations will
23 force costly changes to manufacturing, labeling, warehousing, inventory, and distribution
24 channels; and

1 **WHEREAS**, a patchwork of local and state mandatory labeling laws and regulations will
2 require manufacturers and retailers to make immediate and consequential changes to their
3 businesses in order to comply with such requirements, and will thereby result in higher food
4 prices; and

5 **WHEREAS**, testing to determine if products are exempt will result in higher food prices; and

6 **WHEREAS**, relabeling or reformulating products with specially handled, higher-priced
7 ingredients will result in higher food prices; and

8 **WHEREAS**, requiring separate production runs, state-specific tracking units, segregated
9 warehousing, trucking, and other logistical complexities, will all result in higher food prices;

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

12 That the Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to
13 establish food labeling standards, direct the clarification of voluntary food labeling standards,
14 and provide for a review of foods derived through the use of biotechnology; and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
16 to the Commissioner of the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Secretary of the
17 United States Department of Agriculture, and to each member of the North Dakota
18 Congressional Delegation.