

Introduced by

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  
24 to eastern North Dakota; and

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.