

Introduced by

Senators O. Larsen, Kannianen, Luick

Representative Maragos

1 A concurrent resolution to urge Congress to allow and support the use of thorium reactors in  
2 this state for the creation of energy and medical isotopes.

3 **WHEREAS**, America possesses a nearly inexhaustible supply, thousands of years, of  
4 thorium and uranium which dramatically exceeds all known potential energy reserves; and

5 **WHEREAS**, better utilization of thorium and uranium in specially designed reactors, such as  
6 molten salt reactors and liquid fluoride thorium reactors, can provide energy security from other  
7 nations by utilizing coal and a reactor's nuclear heat to produce an abundance of safe,  
8 affordable, and environmentally friendly synthetic transportation fuels; and

9 **WHEREAS**, these molten liquid fueled reactors are inherently safe, cannot blow up,  
10 meltdown, or cause a widespread radiation release event in the worst possible scenario, and  
11 can consume nearly one hundred percent of the fissionable energy in the fuel which limits and  
12 minimizes nuclear waste and geologic storage issues; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the efficient use of thorium or uranium in a specially designed molten salt  
14 reactor allows for greatly increased environmentally friendly energy production that improves  
15 the economics of many recycling technologies and raises the standard of living; and

16 **WHEREAS**, advanced technology using thorium and uranium can affordably provide  
17 medical isotopes of materials used for treating cancer and HIV/AIDS, providing diagnostic  
18 procedures, and improving health care; and

19 **WHEREAS**, because the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, charged with licensing nuclear  
20 reactors, is not well-funded for establishing procedures for new, advanced reactor designs  
21 based on different architectures from today's fleet of light water reactors, a method for  
22 fast-tracking the licensing of liquid fluoride thorium reactors is needed;

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

Sixty-fifth  
Legislative Assembly

1       That the Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to allow  
2 and support the use of thorium reactors in this state for the creation of energy and medical  
3 isotopes; and

4       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution  
5 to each member of the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission and to each member of the  
6 North Dakota Congressional Delegation.