

Introduced by

Representatives Satrom, Schauer, Vetter

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying best
2 practices to reduce offender recidivism, increase educational opportunities, prepare
3 incarcerated offenders to rejoin their communities, establish and implement a community
4 transitional housing program, including independent host homes, and encourage communities
5 to reintegrate previously incarcerated individuals into society.

6 **WHEREAS**, the state releases approximately 1,400 inmates annually; and

7 **WHEREAS**, previously incarcerated individuals often face numerous barriers upon
8 reintegration into society, including lack of adequate housing, transportation, support systems,
9 training, and employment opportunities; and

10 **WHEREAS**, previously incarcerated individuals may benefit from resources and assistance
11 upon reintegration into society, including vocational training, substance abuse treatment,
12 short-term housing, and remedial education; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the state has over 14,000 job openings; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the employment gap in our communities may be positively impacted through
15 the successful re-entry of previously incarcerated individuals into the workforce; and

16 **WHEREAS**, our communities should be encouraged to assist and support previously
17 incarcerated individuals reintegrating into society in an effort to reduce recidivism and
18 encourage lawful employment;

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

21 That the Legislative Management consider studying best practices to reduce offender
22 recidivism, increase educational opportunities, prepare incarcerated offenders to rejoin their
23 communities, establish and implement a community transitional housing program, including
24 independent host homes, and encourage communities to reintegrate previously incarcerated
25 individuals into society; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in conducting the study, the Legislative Management
2 may seek technical assistance, as appropriate, from the Council of State Governments' Justice
3 Center; and

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and
5 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
6 the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly.