

Introduced by

Representative Becker

1 A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact section 2 of article III of the Constitution of North  
2 Dakota, relating to submitting an initiated or referred measure to the legislative assembly before  
3 the measure may be placed on the ballot.

4 **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

5 This measure would amend section 2 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota to require  
6 an initiated or referred measure to be submitted to the legislative assembly and to permit the  
7 sponsoring committee to circulate petitions to place the measure on the ballot only if the  
8 legislative assembly does not approve the measure or the governor vetoes the measure.

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

11 That the following proposed amendment to section 2 of article III of the Constitution of North  
12 Dakota is agreed to and must be submitted to the qualified electors of North Dakota at the  
13 general election to be held in 2020, in accordance with section 16 of article IV of the  
14 Constitution of North Dakota.

15 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 2 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota is  
16 amended and reenacted as follows:

17 **Section 2.** A petition to initiate or to refer a measure must be presented to the secretary of  
18 state for approval as to form. A request for approval must be presented over the names and  
19 signatures of twenty-five or more electors as sponsors, one of whom must be designated as  
20 chairman of the sponsoring committee. If the secretary of state approves the form, the secretary  
21 of state shall submit the measure to the legislative assembly for consideration by the legislative  
22 assembly. The measure must be deemed introduced and must be referred to a legislative  
23 committee. The legislative assembly may amend the measure, and at least one chamber of the  
24 legislative assembly shall vote on the measure.

1        If the measure is not approved by the legislative assembly or is approved by the legislative  
2 assembly but vetoed by the governor, the sponsoring committee may submit any legislatively  
3 amended version of the measure to the secretary of state for approval to circulate a petition to  
4 place the amended version of the measure on the ballot. Alternatively, the sponsoring  
5 committee may request the secretary of state draft a new version of the measure and may seek  
6 approval to circulate a petition to place the new version of the measure on the ballot. The  
7 secretary of state shall approve the petition for circulation if it is in proper form and contains the  
8 names and addresses of the sponsors and the full text of the measure.

9        The legislative assembly may provide by law for a procedure through which the legislative  
10 council may establish an appropriate method for determining the fiscal impact of an initiative  
11 measure and for making the information regarding the fiscal impact of the measure available to  
12 the public.