

Sixty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4017

Introduced by

Senators Heckaman, Kannianen, Marcellais, Oehlke

Representatives Buffalo, Dobervich

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying the
2 dichotomy between the archaeological discipline on cultural resources and the knowledge and
3 expertise of tribal elders and tribal historic preservation officers to educate local, state, and
4 federal agencies and the public; and the facilitation of effective consultation and cooperation for
5 historic and prehistoric site identification and registration and the betterment of North Dakota
6 and its citizens.

7 **WHEREAS**, historic and prehistoric sites are significant in helping to tell the story of North
8 Dakota's history before it became a state as well as tribal history and continuity; and

9 **WHEREAS**, respectful and culturally sensitive public education can help to further the goal
10 of preserving culturally significant historic and prehistoric sites; and

11 **WHEREAS**, it is important to further mutual respect and understanding between state
12 agencies and the tribes in the state regarding historic and prehistoric cultural resource sites and
13 landscapes in North Dakota; and

14 **WHEREAS**, there is a need for state agencies, regional private archaeological staff, and the
15 public to better understand the tribal perspective on the importance, treatment, and protection of
16 culturally significant historic and prehistoric sites in North Dakota; and

17 **WHEREAS**, education and discussion regarding the archaeological and tribal perspectives
18 on historic and prehistoric sites would help provide a framework for determining eligibility of
19 sites to the North Dakota State Historic Sites Registry and for nominating traditional and
20 culturally significant sites to the National Register of Historic Places; and

21 **WHEREAS**, state agencies, including the Department of Transportation, the Indian Affairs
22 Commission, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Public Service Commission, should
23 coordinate and consult with tribes on identification, evaluation, and preservation of culturally
24 significant historic and prehistoric sites;

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

3 That the Legislative Management consider studying the dichotomy between the
4 archaeological discipline on cultural resources and the knowledge and expertise of tribal elders
5 and tribal historic preservation officers to educate local, state, and federal agencies and the
6 public; and the facilitation of effective consultation and cooperation for historic and prehistoric
7 site identification and registration and the betterment of North Dakota and its citizens; and

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