

Introduced by

Representatives Mock, D. Anderson, C. Johnson, Vetter

Senators Meyer, Vedaa

(Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

1 A concurrent resolution to recognize and congratulate the North Dakota Mill and Elevator
2 Association on its 100th anniversary.

3 **WHEREAS**, the North Dakota Industrial Commission was established with the passage of
4 House Bill No. 17 on February 25, 1919, comprised of the Governor, Attorney General, and
5 Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor, and was designated as the manager of certain utilities,
6 industries, enterprises and business projects on behalf of North Dakota; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the North Dakota Mill and Elevator Association was established with the
8 passage of Senate Bill No. 20 on February 25, 1919, as a result of a long battle waged by
9 farmers and progressives in an attempt to break the grain trade monopoly, have some control
10 over pricing and grading of grain and for the purpose of encouraging and promoting agriculture,
11 commerce, and industry; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the North Dakota Industrial Commission began the experiment of a
13 state-owned mill in 1919 with the purchase of a small flour mill in Drake, North Dakota, with a
14 daily capacity of 125 barrels per day; and

15 **WHEREAS**, on October 21, 1919, A. C. Townsley, founder and president of the Nonpartisan
16 League, announced the State Mill and Elevator would be built in Grand Forks on land donated
17 by the city; and

18 **WHEREAS**, at 11:00 a.m. on October 30, 1922, the first electronic mills of the State Mill and
19 Elevator were turned on by Governor R. A. Nestos at the grand opening ceremony in front of
20 2,500 guests; and

21 **WHEREAS**, on July 28, 1970, a severe fire engulfed the top floors of the State Mill and
22 Elevator, resulting in an 18-month suspension of operations while the building was salvaged
23 and repaired; and

24 **WHEREAS**, on January 31, 1972, Governor William Guy presided over a rededication of
25 the State Mill and Elevator which allowed operations to resume; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the State Mill and Elevator began with a daily production of 3,000 barrels per
2 day in 1922 and grew into the largest flour mill in the United States, the 7th largest wheat milling
3 company in the United States, and the only state-owned mill and elevator in the United States;
4 and

5 **WHEREAS**, the State Mill and Elevator grinds 33 million bushels of top quality spring wheat
6 and durum per year and has the capacity to store 5 million bushels of grain; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the State Mill and Elevator ships "Dakota Maid" products nationwide and
8 exports flour to customers throughout the Caribbean Islands and the Pacific Rim, and
9 emphasizes plant and food safety, product quality, and customer service; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the employees organized a local union under the American Federation of Grain
11 Millers in the late 1940s, which merged and became the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco
12 Workers and Grain Millers Local 167G in 1999; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the State Mill and Elevator remains a national leader in safety and efficiency of
14 operations thanks to regular training and a commitment to quality of service by workers and
15 management alike; and

16 **WHEREAS**, in fiscal year 2018, the State Mill and Elevator reported a direct economic
17 impact to the region of \$255 million and a secondary economic impact of \$592 million; and

18 **WHEREAS**, for more than 80 years the State Mill and Elevator has turned regular profits
19 and contributed surplus funds to the general fund to benefit the lives of all North Dakotans; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the State Mill and Elevator is a North Dakota fixture that makes a strong
21 contribution to the economy of our state; and

22 **WHEREAS**, we honor the North Dakota Mill and Elevator Association for its 100 years of
23 service and thank the State Mill and Elevator's current and past hardworking employees for
24 their ongoing dedication to achieving continuous improvement and their commitment to fulfilling
25 the State Mill and Elevator's mission;

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

28 That the Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly recognizes and congratulates the North Dakota
29 Mill and Elevator Association on its 100th anniversary; and

30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution
31 to members of the North Dakota Industrial Commission, manager of the State Mill, President of

Sixty-sixth
Legislative Assembly

- 1 the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union, and
- 2 members of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.