A concurrent resolution urging Congress to direct the United States Drug Enforcement Administration to differentiate between industrial hemp and marijuana.

WHEREAS, “industrial hemp” refers to varieties of cannabis that have less than three-tenths of 1 percent tetrahydrocannabinol and which are genetically distinct from drug varieties of cannabis commonly known as marijuana; and

WHEREAS, it was never the intent of Congress to interfere with or otherwise prohibit the production and utilization of industrial hemp; and

WHEREAS, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has ruled that the federal Controlled Substances Act of 1970 explicitly excludes nonpsychoactive industrial hemp from the definition of marijuana; and

WHEREAS, industrial hemp is grown commercially in more than 30 nations without undue restriction or complications; and

WHEREAS, the reluctance of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration to decriminalize industrial hemp is denying agricultural producers in this country the ability to benefit from a high-value, low-input crop that requires no pesticides and which can provide significant economic benefits not only to American producers but also to American manufacturers;

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

That the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to direct the United States Drug Enforcement Administration to differentiate between industrial hemp and marijuana, thereby legalizing the production of industrial hemp and its use in American manufacturing efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, the
Sixtieth
Legislative Assembly

1 Attorney General of the United States, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional
2 Delegation.