Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2015

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3020
(Representatives Devlin, Hofstad, D. Johnson, Vigesaa)
(Senators Heckaman, Oehlke)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to study the impact on owners of land that has been inundated by rising waters in Devils Lake and Stump Lake.

WHEREAS, Devils Lake and Stump Lake have inundated land once owned by landowners surrounding the lakes; and

WHEREAS, as the navigable waters increased the inundated land became sovereign land of the state, which deprives the previous owner of the ownership and use of the land; and

WHEREAS, landowners with land taken by the rising lakes want to ensure that when the lakes recede the land returns to the landowners; and

WHEREAS, some landowners have paid property taxes on inundated land for many years in the hope of regaining ownership when the water recedes and some have been required to do so because the surface area of land used for the assessment determination for property tax application does not take into account the current and exact boundary of the lake; and

WHEREAS, the surrounding landowners have suffered extreme hardship from loss of use and ownership of their land and the added burden of paying property taxes on it, but have not received any compensation from the state or federal government;

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

That the Legislative Management study the impact on owners of land that has been inundated by rising waters in Devils Lake and Stump Lake; and

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

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this 6th day of April, 2015,

at 3:55 o'clock P M.

Secretary of State