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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4020
(Senators Miller, Klein, Wanzek)
(Representatives Headland, D. Johnson, M. Nelson)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to establish food labeling standards, direct the clarification of voluntary food labeling standards, and provide for a review of foods derived through the use of biotechnology.

**WHEREAS**, the United States Food and Drug Administration, the American Medical Association, the World Health Organization, Health Canada, the United States Department of Agriculture, the National Academy of Sciences, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, and the European Food Safety Authority, among others, have determined that genetically modified crops grow in the same fashion as those that are not genetically modified and that foods produced with genetically modified ingredients are safe for human consumption; and

**WHEREAS**, genetically modified technology adds desirable traits from nature, without introducing anything unnatural and without using chemicals to increase food production; and

**WHEREAS**, genetically modified technology has been used to produce food products for more than twenty-five years; and

**WHEREAS**, seventy to eighty percent of the foods consumed in this country, both at home and away from home, contain genetically modified ingredients or are genetically modified whole products; and

**WHEREAS**, genetically modified crops are produced on a sustainable basis; and

**WHEREAS**, genetically modified technology is essential for rapid crop adaptation to climatic changes and prevalent diseases and ultimately essential to ensure the long-term sustainable production of an adequate, wholesome, and economical food supply; and

**WHEREAS**, a patchwork of local and state mandatory labeling laws and regulations will force costly changes to manufacturing, labeling, warehousing, inventory, and distribution channels; and

**WHEREAS**, a patchwork of local and state mandatory labeling laws and regulations will require manufacturers and retailers to make immediate and consequential changes to their businesses in order to comply with such requirements, and will thereby result in higher food prices; and

**WHEREAS**, testing to determine if products are exempt will result in higher food prices; and

**WHEREAS**, relabeling or reformulating products with specially handled, higher-priced ingredients will result in higher food prices; and

**WHEREAS**, requiring separate production runs, state-specific tracking units, segregated warehousing, trucking, and other logistical complexities, will all result in higher food prices;

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

That the Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to establish food labeling standards, direct the clarification of voluntary food labeling standards, and provide for a review of foods derived through the use of biotechnology; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Filed in this office this 24th day of March, 2015, at 2:46 o'clock P. M.

Secretary of State