

Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3038
(Representatives Monson, D. Johnson, Nowatzki)
(Senator Heitkamp)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to acknowledge the difference between the marijuana plant and the agricultural crop known as industrial hemp; to acknowledge that allowing and encouraging farmers to produce industrial hemp will improve the balance of trade by promoting domestic sources of industrial hemp; and to assist United States producers by clearly authorizing the commercial production of industrial hemp and by being the leading advocate for the industrial hemp industry.

WHEREAS, industrial hemp refers to varieties of the cannabis plant which have a low content of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and that are cultivated for fiber and oil; and

WHEREAS, industrial hemp should not be confused with varieties of cannabis which have a high content of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and which are commonly referred to as marijuana; and

WHEREAS, the commercial production and cultivation of industrial hemp is now permitted in Canada, under licenses and authorizations issued by Health Canada; and

WHEREAS, Health Canada controls, through rules, all activities relating to the importation, exportation, possession, production, sale, provision, transport, sending, delivering and offering for sale of industrial hemp; and

WHEREAS, industrial hemp is grown legally throughout Europe and Asia; and

WHEREAS, many farmers facing uncertain times in the agricultural marketplace view the reintroduction of industrial hemp as another potential alternative crop that will have long-term economic benefits to the farmers who produce the hemp and the persons who utilize hemp in the production of textiles, paper products, concrete reinforcement, automobile parts, plastics, cosmetics, organic foods and natural body products; and

WHEREAS, Congress never originally intended to prohibit the production of industrial hemp when restricting the production, possession, and use of marijuana;

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

That the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to acknowledge the difference between the marijuana plant and the agricultural crop known as industrial hemp; to acknowledge that allowing and encouraging farmers to produce industrial hemp will improve the balance of trade by promoting domestic sources of industrial hemp; and to assist United States producers by clearly authorizing the commercial production of industrial hemp and by being the leading advocate for the industrial hemp industry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Secretary of Agriculture, the chairmen of the Senate and House Agriculture Committees, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 1999,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State