Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

FIRST DRAFT: Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for the Initiated and Referred Measures Study Commission March 2018

Introduced by

1	A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact section 6 of article III of the Constitution of North
2	Dakota, relating to placement of initiated measures on the general election ballot.
3	STATEMENT OF INTENT
4	This measure would require the Secretary of State to place an initiated measure on the general
5	election ballot.
6	BE IT RESOLVED BY THE OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE
7	CONCURRING THEREIN:
8	That the following proposed amendment to section 6 of article III of the Constitution of North
9	Dakota is agreed to and must be submitted to the qualified electors of North Dakota at the
10	general election to be held in 2020, in accordance with section 16 of article IV of the
11	Constitution of North Dakota.
12	SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 6 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota is
13	amended and reenacted as follows:
14	Section 6. The secretary of state shall pass upon each petition, and if the secretary of state
15	finds it insufficient, the secretary of state shall notify the "committee for the petitioners" and
16	allow twenty days for correction. All decisions of the secretary of state in regard to any petition
17	are subject to review by the supreme court. But if the sufficiency of the petition is being
18	reviewed at the time the ballot is prepared, the secretary of state shall place the measure on the
19	ballot and no subsequent decision shall invalidate the measure if it is at the election approved
20	by a majority of the votes cast thereon. If proceedings are brought against any petition upon any
21	ground, the burden of proof is upon the party attacking it and the proceedings must be filed with
22	the supreme court no later than seventy-five days before the date of the statewide election at
23	which the measure is to be voted upon. An initiated measure may be voted upon only at a
24	general election.