

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

CHAPTER 890

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4075
(Redlin, Traynor)
(Approved by the Committee on Delayed Bills)

STATEWIDE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND STUDY

A concurrent resolution establishing a comprehensive statewide water development program and directing the Legislative Council to continue to investigate and recommend a program or programs for funding and financing this comprehensive statewide water development program.

WHEREAS, the federal government is reducing its commitment to water resource development and the Legislative Assembly can no longer rely on traditional federal programs to develop the state's water resources in a wise and timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly has decided to take the initiative in providing assured water supplies throughout the state, from the Missouri River and other available water resources, as the state enters the twenty-first century; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly determines that assured water supplies are essential for municipal and rural uses, recreation, wildlife, irrigation, agricultural development and processing, and the creation of new jobs in North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish a comprehensive statewide water development program to provide for the water infrastructure requirements of the citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota recognizes that water development in the state that affects waters flowing into Canada must comply with the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909; and

WHEREAS, the 1991 Legislative Assembly adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4038, calling for an investigation and recommendation of a program or programs for funding and financing water resource development throughout the state, and Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4011, urging the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, with the cooperation of the State Water Commission, the Governor, the Garrison Diversion Overview Committee, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, to attempt to negotiate promptly, with the appropriate federal officials, a greater role for the state in the development, construction, operation, and maintenance of the Garrison Diversion Project;

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

That the Legislative Assembly establishes a comprehensive statewide water development program:

1. To establish North Dakota's claim to its proper share of the Missouri River;
2. To complete the Southwest Pipeline Project for distribution of water to cities and rural areas in southwestern North Dakota;
3. To develop the northwest area water supply program for distribution of water to cities and rural areas in northwestern and north central North Dakota;
4. To negotiate appropriate agreements with the United States, with cost sharing by the state or political subdivisions if necessary, to complete principal features of the Garrison Diversion Unit, for distribution of water for multiple uses;
5. To assume the operation and maintenance of Garrison Diversion Unit features to facilitate the delivery of Missouri River water for multiple uses;
6. To deliver Missouri River water to stabilize Devils Lake;
7. To provide water for irrigation for the development and diversification of agriculture;
8. To deliver Missouri River water to the James, Sheyenne, and Red rivers for multiple uses;
9. To establish a permanent revolving fund for grant and loan programs for municipal, rural, domestic, and industrial water supply and water distribution requirements;
10. To develop, design, and construct any additional water management facilities as are necessary for the full utilization and management of water resources throughout the state including such projects as Souris River flood control, Sheyenne River flood control, local water-based recreation projects, and other local water needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the directives of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4038 be completed so as to achieve the objectives of the comprehensive statewide water development program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the directives of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4011 be carried out in light of the statewide comprehensive water development program.

Filed November 8, 1991