

Introduced by

Representative Keiser

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying the
2 expansion of the Public Employees Retirement System's uniform group insurance health
3 benefits for long-term state employees who separate from employment due to reduction in force
4 or retirement.

5 **WHEREAS**, the State of North Dakota relies on and benefits from state employees who
6 make a career of civil service; and

7 **WHEREAS**, state law recognizes long serving civil servants by allowing retirement based
8 on a calculation of age and years of service, with approximately 37 percent of our Public
9 Employees Retirement System retirees retiring under this rule; and

10 **WHEREAS**, budget constraints during the previous 4 years necessitated reduction in force
11 termination of career state employees, with 95 positions eliminated from January 1, 2016,
12 through December 1, 2018; and

13 **WHEREAS**, our health insurance system heavily relies on employer-sponsored health
14 insurance; and

15 **WHEREAS**, state employees who separate from employment before reaching Medicare
16 age due to reduction in force or retirement are faced with the challenge of finding affordable
17 health insurance;

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

20 That the Legislative Management consider studying the expansion of the Public Employees
21 Retirement System's uniform group insurance health benefits for long-term state employees
22 who separate from employment due to reduction in force or retirement; and

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