

Introduced by

Representative Kading

1 A concurrent resolution requesting the Legislative Management to consider studying whether
2 North Dakota could act as an intermediary to provide fissile material from retiring
3 intercontinental ballistic missiles as startup material for thorium energy production or research
4 for new alternatives for energy production and to act as an intermediary to assist private parties
5 to obtain permits for thorium from the federal government.

6 **WHEREAS**, in nuclear engineering, fissile material is material capable of sustaining a
7 nuclear fission chain reaction; and

8 **WHEREAS**, fissile material is the core of a nuclear weapon; and

9 **WHEREAS**, thorium is a basic element of nature, like iron and uranium; and

10 **WHEREAS**, like uranium, thorium's properties allow it to be converted to fissile material that
11 may be used to fuel a nuclear chain reaction to run a power plant and make electricity; and

12 **WHEREAS**, because thorium is not itself fissile and not directly usable in a thermal neutron
13 reactor, fissile material is necessary to first start the thorium reactor; and

14 **WHEREAS**, energy demand is growing and new energy production alternatives need to be
15 explored; and

16 **WHEREAS**, many nuclear weapons in North Dakota will be retired in coming years and
17 may be used for clean energy production;

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 whether North Dakota could act as an
21 intermediary to provide fissile material from retiring intercontinental ballistic missiles as startup
22 material for thorium energy production or research for new alternatives for energy production
23 and to act as an intermediary to assist private parties to obtain permits for thorium from the
24 federal government; and

- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and
- 2 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
- 3 the Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly.