

CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURE NO. 4

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3011

A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact section 2 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to the fiscal impact of measures to initiate constitutional amendments and to the placing of initiated measures on the ballot.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The measure would require that initiated measures that are estimated to have a significant fiscal impact must be placed on the general election ballot. The measure also would prohibit the approval for circulation of any petition to initiate a constitutional amendment that would make a direct appropriation of public funds for a specific purpose or require the legislative assembly to appropriate funds for a specific purpose.

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

That the following proposed amendment to section 2 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota is agreed to and must be submitted to the qualified electors of North Dakota at the general election to be held in 2014, in accordance with section 16 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota.

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 2 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota is amended and reenacted as follows:

Section 2. A petition to initiate or to refer a measure must be presented to the secretary of state for approval as to form. A request for approval must be presented over the names and signatures of twenty-five or more electors as sponsors, one of whom must be designated as chairman of the sponsoring committee. The secretary of state shall approve the petition for circulation if it is in proper form and contains the names and addresses of the sponsors and the full text of the measure.

The legislative assembly may provide by law for ~~a procedure through which the legislative council may establish~~ an appropriate method for determining the extent of the fiscal impact of an initiative measure and for making the information regarding the fiscal impact of the measure available to the public. A measure determined to have a significant fiscal impact must be voted on at a general election.

If a petition to initiate a constitutional amendment would make a direct appropriation of public funds for a specific purpose or would require the legislative assembly to appropriate funds for a specific purpose, the petition may not be approved for circulation.