

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3026
(Representatives Hanson, Klemin)
(Senator Larson)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying improving re-entry outcomes for incarcerated adults and youth.

WHEREAS, North Dakota releases about 1,400 prisoners each year from state prisons and thousands more from county jails; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota has a range of public and private programs that assist formerly incarcerated individuals in their transition back to society, including services related to employment, housing, and behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, identifying improvements in re-entry services could reduce North Dakota's recidivism rate of 40.3 percent, which would save taxpayer dollars and improve lives; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota has a workforce shortage with more than 30,000 open jobs, so businesses would benefit if the state helped former offenders enter and stay in the workforce;

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

That the Legislative Management consider studying improving re-entry outcomes for incarcerated adults and youth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the study include an assessment of current public and private re-entry services, policies, practices, statutes, data, and resource allocation with the goal of identifying opportunities to implement research-based strategies proven to reduce recidivism, improve education and employment outcomes, and maximize resources for the greatest public safety and return on taxpayer dollars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the assessment include examining re-entry services in the areas of correctional supervision, employment, job training, housing, transportation, support services, and behavioral health services; levels of collaboration across service systems; and current disparities in re-entry outcomes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Management may develop a working group to oversee the study which includes legislators, representatives from nonprofit organizations that assist with re-entry, community members with re-entry experience, and representatives from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, county jails, the Behavioral Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Supreme Court, job service or business community, adult and postsecondary education institutions, and tribal nations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in conducting the study, the Legislative Management may seek technical assistance, as appropriate, from the Council of State Governments' Justice Center or the Crime and Justice Institute; and

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

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2023,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State