

Measure #1 White Paper

Prepared for NDFB Membership

SUMMARY OF THE RESOLUTION

Constitutional Measure No. 1 (House Concurrent Resolution 3003) raises the voter-approval threshold for any constitutional amendment, whether citizen-initiated or legislatively referred, but not for citizen-initiated statutory measures, from a simple majority to sixty percent.

RELEVANT NDFB POLICY

"We believe any change to North Dakota's constitution should require a 2/3 majority vote approved by the voters in a general election."— ID#: 2421/24 407.03

BACKGROUND

The resolution was written to make North Dakota's Constitution a more formal, stable document while still allowing change through the democratic process and preserving the citizen-initiated statutory amendment process.

In recent years, North Dakota has passed several measures by relatively narrow margins, heavily funded by out-of-state organizations seeking to change North Dakota and override the will of duly elected legislators. Examples include Measure #1 on the 2022 general election ballot and Measure #1 on the 2018 general election ballot. Many North Dakotans feel they were misled, and the process has been abused and manipulated from its original purpose.

House Concurrent Resolution 3003 passed the House 65-28 and the Senate 33-13 in the 2025 session and is now Constitutional Measure No. 1 on the November 3, 2026 General Election ballot.

Supporters of the amendment frame it as a restoration of original intent and a means of preserving the respective roles of the Constitution, the Legislature, and the Century Code while keeping power in the hands of the citizens.

Opponents believe this will slow the process of wanted change and reduce the ability of citizens to change the constitution.

FULL LANGUAGE OF THE MEASURE

Constitutional Measure No. 1 (House Concurrent Resolution No. 3003)

This constitutional measure would amend and reenact section 9 of article III and section 16 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to the threshold for approving a constitutional amendment.

The proposed amendment is summarized as follows: the threshold for approving a constitutional amendment would be increased from a simple majority to sixty percent.

The estimated fiscal impact of this measure is none.

Yes – Means you approve the measure summarized above.

No – Means you reject the measure summarized above.

NDFB RECOMMENDATION: VOTE YES