

## House Resolution 1493

By: Representatives Drenner of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Davis of the 87<sup>th</sup>, Henson of the 86<sup>th</sup>, and Carter of the 92<sup>nd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing the importance of civil discourse and better arguments; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, political discourse has remained challenging and disparaging, and there has  
3 been a shift away from bipartisan collaboration that pervades national politics; and
- 4 WHEREAS, participating in democracy requires knowing each other and recognizes that  
5 scheduling formal and informal events as a way to encourage friendships across the aisle is  
6 critical; and
- 7 WHEREAS, lawmakers take great note of their often negative campaign experience and will  
8 ascribe those characteristics to the opposing party, resulting in a sentiment that extends  
9 accordingly in the legislature; the best way to combat the lingering campaign negativity is  
10 to host bipartisan social or orientation events between the end of elections and the beginning  
11 of the session to create positive relationships; and
- 12 WHEREAS, legislative leaders are crucial and, by modeling civil and collaborative behavior  
13 in their chamber, will have great influence on the civility of discourse and arguments; and
- 14 WHEREAS, there is a public demand for civil discourse and a government that works in the  
15 best interests of the country as a whole.
- 16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
17 the members of this body recognize the importance of civil discourse and better arguments.
- 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
19 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
20 public and the press.