Senate Resolution

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota
Authors: David Wischer – College of Education & Human Development
Sponsors: Shawn Peterson - Business and Public Administration Senator
CC: Cole Bachmeier - Student Body President, Erik Hanson - Student Body Vice President, Cassie Gerhardt - Student Government Advisor, Andrew Freligh – Student Organization Funding Agency Advisor; Cara Halgren – Vice President for Student Affairs & Diversity
Date: January 30th, 2018
Re: Support for the Task Force for Civil Political Commentary

Whereas, the political commentary in society has grown more divisive over the past few years by many metrics which creates a dangerous path to partisan behavior and politics,

Whereas, next year is an election year which could bring about some divisive issues and create division among students that could be avoided by having engaging, civil conversations,

Whereas, far too often in our society, we tend to shelter ourselves from the views of those that oppose us and when doing this, we hamper our ability to grow in our beliefs or change our positions on any view, especially without interacting with those who hold opposite views,

Whereas, in order to help change the culture on our campus and beyond, it is in our best interest to listen to one another, seek challenging and opposing viewpoints, and learn more about topics that are important in our world,

Whereas, some of the best ways to find challenge views and seek these opportunities is through those that are most knowledgeable on the issues, as well engaging with each other in a civil way,

Therefore, be it resolved that this Student Senate supports that creation of the Task Force for Civil Political Commentary which will consist of Student Senators, Student Leaders, and a Chairman designated by the Executive Committee, with the recommendation of the Student Senate.

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Task Force for Civil Political Commentary will aim to find ways in which they can spur Political Discourse on UND's campus and shed light on major issues on our campus, within our community, or around the country.

Cole Bachmeier, Student Body President