

House Resolution 1491

By: Representatives Lupton of the 83rd, Tran of the 80th, Roberts of the 52nd, Lim of the 98th, and Holcomb of the 101st

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending the Elaine Clark Center; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, for more than five decades, the Elaine Clark Center has provided a safe,
3 inclusive learning and social environment for children and young adults with disabilities and
4 has strengthened families and the broader DeKalb County community; and
- 5 WHEREAS, The Elaine Clark Center was founded, and officially incorporated in 1969, by
6 Sister Robert Therese, who tutored children with developmental disabilities at a time when
7 few services existed; and
- 8 WHEREAS, for more than 55 years, the center has continuously served families in DeKalb
9 County and the surrounding metro Atlanta region; and
- 10 WHEREAS, this year, current Executive Director, Beth Schmebling Cook, celebrates 20
11 years of dedicated service to the center; and
- 12 WHEREAS, serving individuals with a wide range of developmental and physical
13 disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and

14 developmental delay, the Elaine Clark Center provides inclusive early childhood education,
15 therapy support, and social programming; and

16 WHEREAS, the center provides four distinct program areas: early childhood programming,
17 a fully accredited K-12 school, respite and holiday camps, and young adult programming;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, the Elaine Clark Center is one of only a small number of structured social and
20 day-program opportunities in DeKalb County for young adults with disabilities after they age
21 out of public school services; and

22 WHEREAS, by providing specialized care and programming, the center enables parents and
23 caregivers to remain in the workforce; and

24 WHEREAS, the center hosts community service events, volunteer programs, and fundraising
25 initiatives that involve local residents, civic groups, and businesses, including a Day of
26 Service and the Annual Hustle for Hope 5k/1K fun run; and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this extraordinary organization be
28 appropriately recognized.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body recognize and commend the Elaine Clark Center and extend their
31 sincere best wishes for its continued success.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
34 Elaine Clark Center.