

**A Resolution of Censure to Republican Representative Tom Patton Who Voted  
in Favor of Newly Elected House Speaker Jason Stephens**

Adopted by Strongsville GOP Membership on January 30, 2023

WHEREAS, Ohio Republicans achieved a majority of members in the 135th House of Representatives, with sixty-seven (67) members; while the Democratic Party achieved a minority of members, with thirty-two (32) members;

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2022 the Ohio House Republican Caucus elected Representative Derek Merrin (R-Monclova) to be the Republican Caucus nominee for Speaker of the House;

WHEREAS, between December 22, 2023 and January 3, 2023, Representative Tom Patton (R-Strongsville) dishonestly and shamefully concealed his intention to vote for Representative Jason Stephens (R-Kitt Hill) for Speaker of the House from The Strongsville GOP Leaders and Members;

WHEREAS, on January 3, 2023, the 135th House of Representatives elected Representative Jason Stephens with a unanimous vote of all thirty two (32) Democratic Party members and a minority of twenty two (22) Republican members, including Representative Tom Patton, whom was part of the Republican Caucus that elected Derek Merrin as the Caucus' nominee;

WHEREAS, Representative Stephens swore in with Democratic Party Minority Leader Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) holding a Bible for him to swear upon;

WHEREAS, Representative Tom Patton's vote for Representative Stephens dishonors the vote of the Ohio House Republican Caucus, dishonors the historic brand of the Republican Party, and misrepresents the voice of Ohio Republican voters who voted for Representative Tom Patton in order to defeat the dangerous and perverse Democratic Party Caucus agenda, not to empower it;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Strongsville GOP hereby CENSURES Representative Tom Patton (R-Strongsville), and thus Resolves to prohibit any and all future Strongsville GOP endorsements and financial or in kind assistance he would otherwise receive as an elected official or candidate for any office for the period of 2 years.

This CENSURE shall be null and void if and only if Representative Tom Patton takes affirmative steps to honor his pledge to the Republican Caucus, by taking affirmative measures to remedy his wrongdoing. After taking such measures, Representative Patton may speak at any meeting of the Strongsville GOP to argue that the measures he has taken are sufficient to nullify the Strongsville GOP censure. The Strongsville GOP will then entertain motions to nullify the censure of Representative Tom Patton and take a vote, which shall be decided by a 2/3 majority of the members.