

1 A MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING MARCH 3, 2017 AS "SPEECH AND DEBATE EDUCATION
3 DAY" IN THE SENATE.

4
5 WHEREAS, national speech and debate education day is
6 being celebrated on March 3, 2017 to promote enhanced
7 instruction in speech and debate across all grade levels and
8 to highlight the pivotal role speech and debate abilities
9 play in personal advocacy, social movements and public
10 policy; and

11 WHEREAS, speech and debate education helps students
12 develop important skills in communication, critical thinking,
13 creativity and collaboration through the practice of public
14 speaking; and

15 WHEREAS, speech and debate education in New Mexico has
16 grown significantly over the past decade, with thousands of
17 students participating every year; and

18 WHEREAS, speech and debate instruction is an essential
19 component of a well-rounded educational curriculum, and
20 New Mexico speech and debate alumni have been admitted to the
21 top colleges and universities across the globe; and

22 WHEREAS, through speech and debate, participants learn
23 not only to analyze and express complex ideas effectively,
24 but also to listen, concur, question and dissent with reason
25 and compassion; and

1 WHEREAS, the skills learned through speech and debate
2 empower youth to become engaged citizens, skilled
3 professionals and leaders in today's global society; and

4 WHEREAS, students from New Mexico have finished at the
5 top of the national speech and debate tournament every year;
6 the 2012 national speech and debate student of the year was
7 from East Mountain high school in Sandia Park; and debaters
8 from New Mexico consistently place in the top five in the
9 world in the international public policy forum; and

10 WHEREAS, countless educators in New Mexico devote
11 in-school, after-school and weekend time to supporting their
12 students in speech and debate practices and competitions, and
13 their example of hard work and dedication makes a lasting,
14 positive impact on their pupils;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that in recognition of the substantial
17 contribution speech and debate experience makes to students'
18 educations and lives, March 3, 2017 be proclaimed "speech and
19 debate education day" in the senate; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the secretary of public education, the
22 president of the New Mexico speech and debate association and
23 the executive director of the national speech and debate
24 association. _____

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