

**JOINT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING NATIONAL SPEECH  
AND DEBATE EDUCATION DAY**

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Douglas R. Welton**

Senate Sponsor: Stephanie Pitcher

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This resolution recognizes National Speech and Debate Education Day on March 3, 2023.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ recognizes National Speech and Debate Education Day on March 3, 2023;
- ▶ highlights the skills and abilities students develop in speech and debate education;

and

- ▶ recognizes the contributions of debate and speech educators.

**Special Clauses:**

None

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*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

WHEREAS, National Speech and Debate Education Day is March 3, 2023;

WHEREAS, this event was established by the National Speech & Debate Association, in conjunction with national and local partners, and serves to promote better instruction in speech and debate education across all grade levels and to highlight the pivotal roles the skills and abilities developed in speech and debate play in personal advocacy, social movements, and public policy making;



28           WHEREAS, speech and debate education helps students develop important skills in  
29 communication, critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration through the practice of public  
30 speaking;

31           WHEREAS, participants in speech and debate education learn not only to analyze and  
32 express complex ideas effectively but also to listen, concur, ask questions, or dissent with  
33 reason and compassion;

34           WHEREAS, across the state, speech and debate educators devote in-school,  
35 after-school, and weekend time to support their students in speech and debate practices and  
36 competitions, and the example of hard work and dedication they set has lasting, positive impact  
37 on their pupils; and

38           WHEREAS, the skills students learn through speech and debate education serve  
39 students well throughout their lives, and this occasion presents a welcome opportunity to  
40 recognize such instruction as an essential component of a well-rounded curriculum:

41           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
42 hereby recognizes March 3, 2023, as National Speech and Debate Education Day in Utah.

43           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature recognizes the meaningful impact  
44 that speech and debate educators have on students throughout their lives and commends these  
45 educators for their efforts.