

## House Resolution 1340

By: Representatives Sharper of the 177<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Parrish of the 158<sup>th</sup>, Wilkerson of the 38<sup>th</sup>, and Schofield of the 60<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 2, 2018, as National Speech and Debate Day at the state capitol; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, speech and debate programs sharpen students' ability to think and listen  
4 critically and to articulate their thoughts confidently and persuasively and provide them with  
5 the critical analysis skills necessary to analyze information from movies, television, social  
6 media, music, literature, and textbooks with a discerning eye; and

7 WHEREAS, students involved in speech and debate programs develop high-level thinking  
8 skills through application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and creativity, and they come to  
9 understand what they believe about the issues that confront them in our culture and why; and

10 WHEREAS, speech and debate students demonstrate increased problem-solving abilities and  
11 overall academic performance, scoring higher on standardized tests such as the SAT, the  
12 ACT, and AP exams; and

13 WHEREAS, speech and debate students learn more about their world and the policies and  
14 value system that affect them and their communities as a whole by researching dense and  
15 diverse issues; and

16 WHEREAS, the students also learn critical listening skills and how to think quickly on their  
17 feet, and the fast-paced and competitive nature of the program allows them to develop  
18 confidence under pressure; and

19 WHEREAS, speech and debate students create lifelong friendships as they explore difficult  
20 questions and compete with one another; and

21 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding benefits of speech and  
22 debate programs be appropriately recognized.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
24 the members of this body acknowledge the tremendous benefits of speech and debate  
25 programs for the young people of this state and recognize March 2, 2018, as National Speech  
26 and Debate Day at the state capitol.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
28 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
29 public and the press.