A Senate resolution

recognizing March 3, 2017, as National Speech and Debate Education Day.

**WHEREAS,** National Speech and Debate Education Day is being celebrated on March 3, 2017; and

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

**WHEREAS,** speech and debate education helps students develop important skills in communication, critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration through the practice of public speaking; participants learn not only to analyze and express complex ideas effectively but also to listen, concur, question, or dissent with reason and compassion; and

**WHEREAS,** across the country, countless educators devote in-school, after-school, and weekend time to supporting their students in speech and debate practices and competitions, and the example of hard work and dedication they set has a lasting, positive impact on their pupils; and

**WHEREAS,** the skills learned through speech and debate serve students well throughout their lives, and this occasion presents a welcome opportunity to recognize such instruction as an essential component of a well-rounded curriculum; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it recognizes March 3, 2017, as National Speech and Education Day in Minnesota.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by the Secretary's signature and that of the Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit it to the Executive Director of the National Speech and Debate Association.


Cal R. Ludeman
Secretary of the Senate

Paul E. Gazelka
Chair, Senate Committee on
Rules and Administration


Matt Little
State Senator, District 58