

## 2017-J486

Senate Resolution No. 486

BY: Senator HANNON

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim  
March 3, 2017, as Speech and Debate Education Day in  
the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize  
official days that are set aside to increase awareness of significant  
events that affect the education of the students in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its  
long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to  
memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 3, 2017, as  
Speech and Debate Education Day in the State of New York, in conjunction  
with the observance of National Speech and Debate Education Day; and

WHEREAS, National Speech and Debate Education Day was established by  
the National Speech & Debate Association; this vital event, in  
conjunction with national and local partners, serves to promote better  
instruction in speech and debate across all grade levels and highlights  
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, and 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; the example of hard work and dedication they set has 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; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 3, 2017, as Speech and Debate Education Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Speech and Debate Education Day; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.