

## 2021-J487

Senate Resolution No. 487

BY: Senator RIVERA

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim  
March 5, 2021, as Speech and Debate Education Day in  
the State of New York

WHEREAS, Established by the National Speech & 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, questions, or dissent with reason and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Across the State, 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 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 5, 2021, as Speech and Debate Education Day in the State of New York; 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.