



Proclamation

In Recognition of

National Speech and Debate Education Day

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Speech League was formally organized in 1959 to promote and encourage excellence in speech by sponsoring a diversified program of speech activities for public and private school students; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Speech League currently has 23 member schools across the State, of which 15 are Chapter Members in the National Speech and Debate Association; and

WHEREAS, about 2,000 intermediate and high school students compete in the statewide tournaments each year; and

WHEREAS, the practice of public speaking will serve students well throughout their lives and help them develop important communications skills such as critical listening, analysis, creativity, and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, speech and debate education prepares students for leadership and highlights the pivotal roles these communication skills play in personal advocacy, social movements, and public policy making; and

WHEREAS, countless educators devote time after school and on weekends to support their students in speech and debate practices and competitions, setting an example of hard work and dedication and making a positive, lasting impact on their pupils; and

WHEREAS, speech and debate education for international students who study in Hawai'i provides opportunities for them to return home and be positive change agents for their own countries; and

WHEREAS, National Speech and Debate Education Day serves to promote better instruction in speech and debate across all grade levels;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, DOUGLAS S. CHIN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 2, 2018 as

"SPEECH AND DEBATE EDUCATION DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the value and importance of speech and debate education and how it prepares our students to become engaged citizens, skilled professionals, visionaries and leaders in our global society.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourteenth day of February 2018.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i