



**Office of  
Representative Hannah E. Kane  
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*For Immediate Release*

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## **Representative Kane, Senator Moore File Joint Resolution for National Speech and Debate Education Day**

**BOSTON** – Last month, **Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury)** and **Senator Michael Moore (D-Millbury)** filed a joint resolution to recognize March 3<sup>rd</sup> as National Speech and Debate Education Day in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The General Court recently recognized this resolution, making this past Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 the first year officially dedicated to this Association in the Commonwealth.

New England District of the National Speech and Debate Association Chair, Marc Rischitelli, first informed Representative Kane and Senator Moore that the National Speech and Debate Club Association, in conjunction with local partners, has a history of celebrating the Association on March 3<sup>rd</sup> in previous years. As such, the Legislators decided to file this joint resolution and ensure Massachusetts formal inclusion in the celebrations.

“I am proud to have filed this resolution recognizing March 3<sup>rd</sup> as National Speech and Debate Education Day. For high school students, the organization presents many merits, such as providing pupils with effective communication skills, public speaking abilities, and the ability to confidently and accurately advocate for public policy issues. As a State Representative, I certainly understand the value of this organization, and require many of the skills and abilities the Association works to develop in students”, stated Representative Kane.

Both State Representatives and Senators alike were pleased to offer their support for this resolution, and sign on as co-sponsors. In fact, some legislators are either coaches of local chapters today, or participated in their own high school’s club during their time as students. The total number of co-signers for the resolution is an impressive 67 members of the Legislature.

“Having an opinion is commonplace,” said Senator Moore. “But being able to effectively articulate a view, and to advance that position, requires far more talent and experience. In the age of technology – where a text message has often replaced a conversation – being able to speak and debate merits renewed attention. I was happy to work with Representative Kane to highlight the importance of speech and debate education, and the impact of these skills on students’ future educational and professional goals.”

Representative Kane and Senator Moore presented this resolution on Saturday, March 4, at Shrewsbury High School during one of the state's largest annual Speech and Debate Club tournaments.

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