

CONTACT ELECTED OFFICIALS

Speech and debate changes lives. National Speech and Debate Education Day is a great way to celebrate educators, inspire students, celebrate your success, and raise awareness about the benefits of participating in speech and debate. We need your help to ensure your state recognizes **National Speech and Debate Education Day on March 1, 2019**. Here are a few tips to help you get a state proclamation or resolution passed.

1. **Look up your local state representatives online:** <https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials>
2. **Ask yourself if you have any connections to elected officials.** The best place to start is asking your school communication staffer, school district officials, or school advocacy groups. They may already work with elected officials in your district, and could easily reach out to them about National Speech and Debate Education Day. Don't forget to think about parents who may have connections!
3. **Email your local representative.** If possible, use your school email account! (Editable email and proclamation templates can also be found online at www.SpeechAndDebateDay.org.)
4. **Tell us if you need any additional help.** (Email grace.rogers@speechanddebate.org.)
5. **Follow up with your elected official.** Once they have agreed to get the proclamation passed, make sure to ask them the following:
 - When will it be read on the floor?
 - What day and time?
 - Can my speech and debate team attend?
 - Can we take pictures to share with our school and the national organization?

Follow up with us! Make sure to tell us all about your success! Send us photos, videos, and tag us on social media @speechanddebate using #WeAreSpeechAndDebate. We will share your success and can help you write a press release to get local media coverage.

GOOD LUCK!



Additional free resources, including posters, fundraising tips, templates, and more are available at www.SpeechAndDebateDay.org.