

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE JUNE 14-19, 2020 "NATIONAL
3 SPEECH AND DEBATE TOURNAMENT DAYS" IN NEW MEXICO.

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5 WHEREAS, on June 14-19, 2020, Albuquerque will host the
6 world's largest academic competition for high school and
7 middle school students, the national speech and debate
8 tournament; and

9 WHEREAS, the middle school national tournament will run
10 concurrently with the high school tournament and will take
11 place on June 16-19, 2020, also in Albuquerque; and

12 WHEREAS, in conjunction with the tournament, Albuquerque
13 will host the first-ever national Spanish language speech and
14 debate competition; and

15 WHEREAS, the tournament draws competitors from
16 forty-eight states, five countries and two United States
17 territories, with an estimated eleven-million-dollar
18 (\$11,000,000) impact to the local economy; and

19 WHEREAS, ten thousand students, coaches and volunteers
20 will visit Albuquerque during the tournament; and

21 WHEREAS, the debates will be hosted by local schools,
22 and the final events will be held at the Albuquerque
23 convention center; and

24 WHEREAS, the mission of the national speech and debate
25 association is to connect, support and inspire a diverse

1 community committed to empowering students through
2 competitive speech and debate; and

3 WHEREAS, to participate in the national speech and
4 debate tournament, high school students must qualify at one
5 of the association's district tournaments or through one of
6 eight international qualifying programs; and

7 WHEREAS, at the middle school tournament, students have
8 the chance to compete, build their skills, meet other
9 students from across the country, and, as it overlaps with
10 the high school tournament, learn from watching the final
11 high school rounds; and

12 WHEREAS, the tournament is being hosted by the
13 Albuquerque public school district, the city of Albuquerque
14 and the local New Mexico speech and debate community;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to declare
17 June 14-19, 2020 "National Speech and Debate Tournament Days"
18 in New Mexico; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the executive director of the national speech
21 and debate association. _____

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