

By: Anchía

H.R. No. 1416

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The University of Texas at Austin speech team
2 furthered its legacy of success by winning the national
3 championship at the 2025 American Forensic Association National
4 Speech Tournament; and

5 WHEREAS, Since 1978, the AFA-NST has drawn thousands of
6 college students from across the country to compete for national
7 titles in 11 individual events; held each April, its participants
8 must pass through a rigorous qualification system to earn their
9 entrance; and

10 WHEREAS, Competing on April 5-7 in Charlotte, North Carolina,
11 Texas Speech collected its 4th consecutive national championship
12 and the 11th in program history; individually, its members brought
13 home 11 national finalist trophies in events ranging from limited
14 preparation to interpretation, with performances that prioritized
15 political and personal advocacy; in addition, third-year student
16 Ishika Bhasin was named the national champion in impromptu
17 speaking; and

18 WHEREAS, Housed in the Department of Communication Studies
19 within the Moody College of Communication, Texas Speech is UT
20 Austin's official competitive intercollegiate speech organization,
21 and its members train and compete in nationally recognized
22 categories of performance and public speaking; they also serve
23 alongside Texas Debate as the organizing point for the historical
24 records and forensic history of one of the school's oldest student

1 organizations, the Texas Forensic Union, which was first
2 established as the Athenaeum Literary Society in 1883; led by
3 captains Kaylee Frazier and Jennifer Gonzalez, the team benefits
4 from the guidance of its director, Dr. Eva Margarita, and coaches;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, By collecting four consecutive national
7 championships, Texas Speech has distinguished itself as a
8 powerhouse in collegiate forensics, and its members may indeed
9 reflect with pride on a job well done; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
11 Legislature hereby congratulate The University of Texas speech team
12 on winning the championship at the 2025 American Forensic
13 Association National Speech Tournament and extend to its members
14 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for Texas Speech as an expression of high regard by the
17 Texas House of Representatives.