

HR255 INTRODUCED



1 HR255
2 7BL8SVV-1
3 By Representatives Shaw, Carns
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 17-Mar-26



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HR_____ COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE VESTAVIA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM FOR WINNING ITS FIFTH CONSECUTIVE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

WHEREAS, highest congratulations are herein proudly presented to the Vestavia Hills High School Speech and Debate Team, of Vestavia Hills, Alabama, for winning its fifth consecutive state championship in speech and debate at the 2026 Alabama State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the tournament was held March 6-7, 2026, at Northridge High School in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where the Vestavia Hills team once again distinguished itself through superior preparation, poise, and performance; and

WHEREAS, students earned state titles and top finishes across multiple events, including Dev Patel in Congressional Debate House A; Kaylee Zhao in Congressional Debate House B and Impromptu Speaking; Veronica Zhang in Congressional Debate Senate and International Extemporaneous Speaking; Tina Gao in United States Extemporaneous Speaking; Mina Hu in Lincoln-Douglas Debate; Abigail Wang and Anthony Li in JV Public Forum Debate; and Varsity Public Forum Debate championships were earned by Kaylee Zhao and Astha Mehta, with co-champion honors also earned by Arhaan Lalani and Vivian Shi; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 championship follows Vestavia



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29 Hills' 2025 4th consecutive state title, reflecting a
30 sustained standard of excellence and bringing honor to
31 Vestavia Hills High School, Vestavia Hills City Schools, and
32 the State of Alabama; and

33 WHEREAS, the program has been ably led by Coach Nate
34 Conoly, whose leadership has guided Vestavia Hills students
35 to continued success in one of the most demanding forms of
36 academic competition; and

37 WHEREAS, the team's present achievements continue a
38 long and proud tradition of excellence established by
39 generations of Vestavia Hills debaters and coaches, and the
40 program has earned recognition at both the state and
41 national levels for cultivating scholarship, discipline, and
42 civic-minded leadership; and

43 WHEREAS, the achievements of the Vestavia Hills High
44 School Speech and Debate Team reflect the highest ideals of
45 academic competition and serve as a tremendous source of
46 pride to the students, coaches, families, faculty, alumni,
47 and the entire Vestavia Hills community; now therefore,

48 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
49 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the Vestavia Hills High
50 School Speech and Debate Team and its coaches are hereby
51 highly honored and commended for winning their fifth
52 consecutive state championship, and this resolution is
53 dedicated to them with utmost admiration, together with
54 sincere best wishes for continued success in all future
55 endeavors.