

Figure: 19 TAC §30.1(a)

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Petition for Adoption of a Rule

The Texas Government Code, §2001.021, provides that any interested person may petition an agency requesting the adoption of a rule.

Petitions should be signed and submitted to:

Commissioner of Education
Texas Education Agency, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701-1494

Name: Colin Malinak

Affiliation/Organization (if applicable): Texas Speech Communication Association

Address: 9401 Starcrest Dr. San Antonio, TX 78217

Telephone: (210) 445-2425

Date: 12/12/18

Texas Government Code, §2001.021, specifies that an interested person must meet one of the following criteria. Please check all of the following that apply to you.

- resident of Texas
- business entity located in Texas
- governmental subdivision located in Texas
- public or private organization located in Texas that is not a state agency

Proposed rule text (indicate words to be added or deleted from the current text):

in 19 TAC§74.12(7) add

"(C) In accordance with local district policy, credit may be earned through participation in Speech and Debate competition for students enrolled in Debate I, II, or III, Oral Interpretation I, II, or III, or Public Speaking I, II, or III.

(D) No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions allowed in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph."

Statutory authority for the proposed rule action:

Texas Education Code, §§7.102(c)(4); 28.002; and 28.025

Why is this rule action necessary or desirable?

Debate, Public Speaking, and Oral Interpretation, as courses, represent a growing body of students developing desired skills as outlined in the Long-Range Planning Public Input Survey Final Results - namely "to teach communication, problem-solving, critical thinking and other employability skills." These skills are in line with the TEC fine arts description as provided below. Specifically, Debate and Public Speaking teach critical thinking and communication while encouraging higher cognitive functioning through team work (partnered debates), research skills, persuasion, and refutation.

(If more space is required, attach additional sheets.)


Petitioner's Signature TSCA, PRESIDENT

Oral Interpretation directly challenges students to explore realities, relationships, and ideas through the medium of competitive acting in-line with UIL One Act. Through representational acting in Duet Acting/Dramatic/Humorous/Prose/Poetry interpretation, and thematic explorations in Program of Oral Interpretation, students are directly engaging in the medium of fine arts.

Thousands of students participate in these disciplines over the course of every weekend but are not receiving any required graduation credit.

Per Chapter 117, Subchapter C of the Texas Education Code, §117.302(b)(1)

“The fine arts incorporate the study of dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts to offer unique experiences and empower students to **explore realities, relationships, and ideas**. These disciplines engage and motivate all students through **active learning, critical thinking, and innovative problem solving**. The fine arts develop cognitive functioning and increase student academic achievement, **higher-order thinking, communication, and collaboration skills**, making the fine arts applicable to college readiness, career opportunities, workplace environments, social skills, and everyday life. Students develop aesthetic and cultural awareness through exploration, leading to creative expression. Creativity, encouraged through the study of the fine arts, is essential to nurture and develop the whole child.”

Debate, Public Speaking, and Oral Interpretation exemplify these objectives.