MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Representatives James-Jones, Banks, Bell To: Rules (65th), Butler-Washington, Cockerham, Crudup, Denton, Faulkner, Gibbs (72nd), Harness, Hines, Holloway (27th), Holloway (76th), Karriem, McCray, Mickens, Nelson, Porter, Scott, Taylor, Thompson, Foster

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 20

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE DYNAMIC LADIES 2 OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED, ON THE OCCASION OF 3 HOSTING ITS MISSISSIPPI DELTA DAYS AT THE CAPITOL AND ASSERTING 4 THEIR STRENGTH THROUGH ADVOCACY ON FEBRUARY 5-6, 2024. 5 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, a national, nonprofit and nonpartisan sisterhood and public service 6 7 organization which has stood the test of time, is represented by over 1,000 chapters throughout the United States, England, Japan, 8 9 Germany, the Virgin Islands, the Bahamas and the Republic of 10 Korea, including its numerous chapters within the State of 11 Mississippi; and 12 WHEREAS, public service and social change have been 13 synonymous with this organization since its founding in 1913, and 14 sparked a movement that has shown growth of more than 300,000 members internationally through policy platforms that have served 15 as the catalysts driving Delta Days for the past three decades to 16

17 uphold the mantle of answering the call to civic, social and

18 political activism; and

WHEREAS, on February 5-6, 2024, the dynamic ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, have journeyed to the capital city focused on "Taking a Stand, by Taking Our Seat" as part of their civic engagement, social advocacy and unified efforts to increase political awareness during their annual Mississippi Delta Days at the Capitol; and

25 WHEREAS, Delta Days at the Capitol is a time for members to 26 engage with elected officials and promote awareness for important 27 legislative issues impacting the community, and paired with the 28 goal of advocating and asserting the collective strength of the 29 members of this sisterhood to work strategically within the 30 legislative process; and

31 WHEREAS, holding true to its legacy and commitment to 32 advancing its arm of public service, Delta Days at the Capitol is 33 a vitally enduring component of the organization's national agenda 34 to educate and stimulate its members regarding public policy and 35 advocacy, denoting more than 111 years of social action to remain politically engaged with policy implementation in the State of 36 37 Mississippi, a testament in keeping with the mission and motto 38 established by its founders and highlighting its nine cardinal 39 values, as best symbolized by the nine jewels incorporated into 40 the Sigma emblem: Honesty, Purity, Fidelity, Justice, Compassion, Dedication, Fellowship, Temperance and Courtesy; and 41

42 WHEREAS, because the national and local organizations remain 43 engaged in causes that impact the communities of its members

H. R. No. 20 **~ OFFICIAL ~** 24/HR26/R1386 PAGE 2 (DJ\KW) 44 through political engagement and social reform, the regional and 45 local chapters work hard to execute plans of action with precision 46 and finality; and

WHEREAS, this year's Delta Days at the Capitol steering 47 48 committee includes: Southern Regional Director, Amaris L. 49 Johnson; Southern Regional Representative, Jaylin C. Martin; Regional Social Action Coordinator, Alfreda D. Coward; Mississippi 50 51 State Coordinator, Jennifer Riley, PhD; and the Mississippi State 52 Facilitator, Sydney Ballard; all of whom are duly supported by the 53 Mississippi National Social Action Commissioner, Waikinya Clanton; 54 and

55 WHEREAS, the Chairwomen of the 2024 Delta Days at the Capitol 56 are State Representative for House District 51, Timaka James-Jones 57 and Shulandra Kerr, who are passionately supported by the host 58 chapter, the Madison County, Mississippi Alumnae Chapter, under 59 the keen leadership of President Keila Brown; and

60 WHEREAS, zealous in their steadfast commitment to remain the voice for the voiceless in the communities served by the 61 62 organization, both alumnae and collegiate chapters are expected, 63 during the two-day Delta Days at the Capitol event, to engage in 64 workshops and sessions led by experts in various areas of 65 political, social and civic involvement, geared toward raising 66 member awareness and increasing member involvement in the public 67 policy-making process; and

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68 WHEREAS, this year's event is mobilized to represent more 69 than 3,000 members from chapters across the state, the ladies from 70 the Alumnae Chapters of Alcorn County, Bolivar County, 71 Clarksdale-Marks, Clay County, Clinton, DeSoto County, Greenville, 72 Greenwood-Itta Bena, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Madison, Meridian, 73 Mississippi Gulf Coast, Moss Point, Natchez, Pike County, 74 Vicksburg and Yazoo City, along with the young ladies from the 75 collegiate chapters of Alcorn State University, Jackson State 76 University, Mississippi State University, Rust College, Tougaloo 77 College, the University of Mississippi and the University of 78 Southern Mississippi will convene in Jackson, Mississippi, to 79 continue the legacy of Mississippi Delta Days at the Capitol; and

80 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to 81 commend dedicated civic organizations, such as Delta Sigma Theta 82 Sorority, Incorporated, that have given and continue to give 83 countless volunteer hours to educate and improve communities 84 throughout this great state, the nation and the world:

85 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF 86 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby 87 commend the dynamic ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, 88 Incorporated, for their 111 years of commitment and resolve to 89 social activism throughout the State of Mississippi and congratulate them on the occasion of hosting its Mississippi Delta 90 91 Days at the Capitol, and "Taking a Stand, by Taking Our Seat" at the advocacy table on February 5-6, 2024. 92

93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be 94 furnished to the Mississippi Chapters of Delta Sigma Theta 95 Sorority, Incorporated, and to the members of the Capitol Press 96 Corps.

H. R. No. 20 24/HR26/R1386 PAGE 5 (DJ\KW) ST: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated; commend and congratulate on the occasion of Delta Days at the Capitol.