

By: Representatives Thompson, Sanders,
Summers, Brown, Faulkner, Gibbs (36th),
Karriem, Osborne, Taylor

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 25

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE LAUDABLE SERVICE
2 AND ZEAL OF DR. PORTIA E. ELLIS AS THE VISIONARY AND INTREPID
3 STATE DIRECTOR OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INC., FOR MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Portia E. Ellis, a Zeta legacy and ZOL Certified
5 Centennial Life Member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.,
6 understands the importance of excellence in all areas, having
7 served her beloved Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., on the local,
8 state, regional and national levels, which entails her ascent to
9 the post as State Director of Mississippi; and

10 WHEREAS, on July 1, 2020, International Centennial President,
11 Valerie Hollingsworth-Baker, appointed Dr. Ellis to lead the
12 "Mighty" Mississippi into the second half of the Zeta's Centennial
13 Year; and

14 WHEREAS, having previously held posts as former chapter
15 president of the Zeta Upsilon Zeta Chapter of Holly Springs,
16 Mississippi, State and Regional Undergraduate Coordinator,
17 National Vendor Director, Executive Affairs Coordinator and State



18 Assistant State Secretary, Madame State Director Ellis understands
19 the need for servant leadership and Zeta excellence; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Ellis' stalwart capability as a zealous leader
21 with the interests of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., at the
22 forefront of her platform, was reaffirmed in her role as State
23 Director on October 23, 2022, when her Sorors elected her to
24 continue at the helm of the State, denoting a historical first in
25 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.'s chronology that a State Director
26 had been elected; and

27 WHEREAS, carrying the double honor of history as the last
28 appointed and the first elected Mississippi State Director,
29 Dr. Ellis embodies the principle of scholarship; and

30 WHEREAS, a proud graduate of Rust College, where she became a
31 member of the sisterhood through the Iota Gamma Chapter,
32 graduating at the very top of her class at the age of 19, Dr.
33 Ellis would later matriculate through post-baccalaureate programs
34 to receive two master's degrees in the concentrations of medical
35 sciences and public health while studying in Ohio, before
36 subsequently attaining a doctor of philosophy degree in Public
37 Policy and Health Policy from Southern University in Baton Rouge,
38 Louisiana; and

39 WHEREAS, in addition to diligent advocacy for Zeta, Dr. Ellis
40 has been blessed with a career as a public health program manager
41 with the government, while simultaneously experiencing the joy of
42 cultivating the next generation of academicians as a college



43 adjunct professor, in addition to enjoying the leisure amenities
44 of traveling and spending time with her immediate family and
45 friends; and

46 WHEREAS, Dr. Ellis has modeled her life premised on her
47 devout belief in one of her many favorite scriptures, Psalm 84:11:
48 "For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace
49 and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk
50 uprightly"; and

51 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
52 acknowledge the remarkable works and dedication of one of
53 Mississippi's crown jewels, embodied in the life and service of
54 Dr. Portia E. Ellis:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
56 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
57 recognize and commend the laudable service and zeal of Dr. Portia
58 E. Ellis as the visionary and intrepid State Director of Zeta Phi
59 Beta Sorority, Inc., for Mississippi, and extend best wishes for
60 continued success in her guidance of the sorority and in all her
61 future endeavors.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
63 furnished to Dr. Portia E. Ellis and to the members of the Capitol
64 Press Corps.

