**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE FLORENCE ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED, TO SALUTE ITS MEMBERS ON SIXTY‑SIX YEARS OF SISTERHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP, AND SERVICE IN FLORENCE COUNTY AND IN THE CITY OF DARLINGTON, AND TO DECLARE THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018, AS “FLORENCE ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY DAY.”

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to learn that the Florence Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta is celebrating the sixty‑sixth anniversary of its founding, as well as the countless good works it has accomplished in the decades subsequent to its founding; and

Whereas, an organization of college‑educated women who perform public service initiatives, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, was founded in 1913 by twenty‑two women on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. The organization remains true to its mission of promoting academic excellence, providing scholarship assistance, supporting the underserved, educating and stimulating participation in the establishment of positive public policy, and highlighting issues and providing solutions to problems in members’ communities. Over the years, Delta Sigma Theta has expanded to become the largest African‑American Greek‑lettered sorority in the world, with 61,946 members and 1,047 alumnae and collegiate chapters in the United States and around the world; and

Whereas, Delta Sigma Theta is faithfully committed to its Five‑Point Programmatic Thrust: economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement, as established by its founders one hundred five years ago; and

Whereas, members of the Florence Alumnae Chapter exemplify the spirit of their founders through their roles as educators, advocates, and activists, both professionally and voluntarily, and they endeavor to improve the quality of life and overall well‑being of their communities; and

Whereas, the chapter’s mission and programs benefit the community through educational initiatives such as Delta GEMS, Delta Academy, EMBODI, and scholarships; the donation of more than twelve thousand dollars to the Sickle Cell Foundation and the donation of eight hundred bag lunches to Help for Children; the support of local nursing facilities, shelters, UNCF, and the NAACP; health and wellness initiatives, political forums, and voter registration activities; and overall engagement in charitable giving at home and abroad; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives are pleased to pause in their deliberations to recognize the valuable contributions of the Florence Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta and to express their profound appreciation for its service to the women of our great State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor the Florence Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, salute its members on sixty‑six years of sisterhood, scholarship, and service in Florence County and in the City of Darlington, and declare Thursday, April 19, 2018, as “Florence Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Day.”

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Florence Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta.

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