

By: Rose

H.R. No. 1091

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Collegiate and alumnae members of Delta Sigma Theta
2 Sorority are gathering in Austin on April 17, 2023, to mark Red and
3 White Day, a day of advocacy and action, at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was founded on January
5 13, 1913, at Howard University in Washington, D.C.; the 22 original
6 members included four young women from Texas, Zephyr Chisom Carter,
7 Jessie McGuire Dent, Frederica Chase Dodd, and Myra Davis Hemmings,
8 all committed to academic excellence and social change; members
9 marched in a women's suffrage parade soon after, and they
10 incorporated as a national organization in 1930; and

11 WHEREAS, The organization, which is proudly marking the 110th
12 anniversary of its founding in 2023, is made up of more than 350,000
13 women in the United States and several foreign countries; it
14 encompasses over 1,000 chapters, with many in the Lone Star State;
15 participants work toward positive change in their communities,
16 placing a strong emphasis on the core issues of economic
17 development, educational development, international awareness,
18 political awareness, and physical and mental health; moreover,
19 Delta Sigma Theta members mentor at-risk young women, conduct voter
20 awareness drives, host political forums, and help guide and inform
21 public policy; and

22 WHEREAS, Many members of the sorority have gone on to have
23 distinguished careers in public service, including Texas State
24 Representatives Toni Rose and Rhetta Andrews Bowers, as well as

1 legendary former legislators, such as State Representative Ruth
2 Jones McClendon and Congresswoman Barbara Jordan; among the Texans
3 who have held significant leadership positions within the
4 organization is the sorority's current national president, Elsie
5 Cooke-Holmes, who resides in Plano; and

6 WHEREAS, The women of Delta Sigma Theta have enriched the
7 State of Texas and the entire nation through their advocacy and civic
8 engagement, and it is indeed a pleasure to commend them for their
9 noteworthy endeavors; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
11 Legislature hereby recognize April 17, 2023, as Red and White Day at
12 the State Capitol and extend to all those involved with Delta Sigma
13 Theta Sorority sincere best wishes as they celebrate the
14 organization's 110th anniversary; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the sorority as an expression of high regard by the
17 Texas House of Representatives.