

By: Rose

H.R. No. 321

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Collegiate and alumnae members of Delta Sigma Theta
2 Sorority, Inc., are gathering together in locations across North
3 Texas February 21-24, 2013, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of
4 their organization's founding; and

5 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta was established on January 13,
6 1913, on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., by 22
7 charter members, who aimed to promote academic excellence and
8 community service; the group's first public action, undertaken that
9 same year, was to participate in a march for women's suffrage in
10 Washington; incorporated in 1930, the sorority today has more than
11 250,000 members in approximately 1,000 chapters across the United
12 States, England, Japan, Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the
13 Bahamas, and South Korea; and

14 WHEREAS, Among Delta's founders were four women born in
15 Texas, Zephyr Chisom Carter of El Paso, Jessie McGuire Dent of
16 Galveston, Frederica Chase Dodd of Dallas, and Myra Davis Hemmings
17 of Gonzales, and the sorority maintains a strong connection with
18 the Lone Star State today, with 62 Texas chapters; as Delta
19 celebrates its centennial this year, several chapters in the state
20 are concurrently marking 25 and 50 years of service; in addition,
21 Dallas has been singled out as one of 22 cities important to the
22 history of the sorority, and it is consequently hosting the passing
23 of the Delta Torch, which is crossing the nation as part of the
24 centennial observance; and

1 WHEREAS, Throughout Texas, alumnae and collegiate chapters
2 promote Delta's "Five Point Thrust" program by supporting economic
3 development, international awareness, political involvement, and
4 physical and mental health and educational initiatives; among their
5 wide-ranging endeavors, chapters mentor at-risk African American
6 girls ages 11 through 14, participate in get-out-the-vote drives,
7 host forums for political candidates, and encourage member
8 involvement in public policy-making at all levels of government;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta has immeasurably enriched the
11 lives of its members and has contributed to the greater good of
12 communities across Texas, just as its founders envisioned a century
13 ago; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
15 Legislature hereby recognize February 21-24, 2013, as Delta Sigma
16 Theta Sorority, Inc., Days in Texas on the occasion of the
17 organization's 100th anniversary and extend to its members sincere
18 best wishes for successful and memorable celebrations; and, be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for Delta Sigma Theta as an expression of high regard by
22 the Texas House of Representatives.