

By: Gervin-Hawkins

H.R. No. 320

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Proud members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and Zeta  
2 Phi Beta Sorority are gathering in Austin on February 7, 2017, to  
3 celebrate Blue and White Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1914, Phi Beta Sigma was established at Howard  
5 University, and six years later, Zeta Phi Beta was formed with the  
6 fraternity's assistance; the two organizations are  
7 constitutionally bound and enjoy a mutually supportive  
8 relationship; and

9 WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma now has more than 290,000 lifetime  
10 members in the United States and beyond; over the years, the group  
11 has expanded its service mission by creating the Phi Beta Sigma  
12 National Foundation, the Phi Beta Sigma Federal Credit Union, and  
13 the Sigma Beta Club Foundation; members also sponsor international  
14 programs focusing on education, business development, and social  
15 action, and in response to former president Barack Obama's My  
16 Brother's Keeper initiative, they adopted a 10-point action plan to  
17 address issues impacting men of color; and

18 WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta is dedicated to improving the human  
19 condition both at home and abroad; it was the first National  
20 Pan-Hellenic Council organization to charter a chapter in Africa,  
21 and it now has a membership of over 125,000 in hundreds of chapters  
22 around the world; since its inception, its members have worked to  
23 transform their communities through volunteerism, and they have  
24 advocated powerfully for social and civic progress; through its

1 National Educational Foundation, the group awards scholarships,  
2 conducts community education and training programs, and supports  
3 scientific research; and

4 WHEREAS, A joint effort of Phi Beta Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta,  
5 Blue and White Day provides an opportunity for the organizations'  
6 members to reaffirm their steadfast commitment to community service  
7 and civic engagement, and it is indeed a pleasure to recognize their  
8 contributions at this time; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby commemorate Blue and White Day at the State  
11 Capitol and extend to the delegations from Phi Beta Sigma  
12 Fraternity and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority sincere best wishes for an  
13 enjoyable and meaningful event; and, be it further

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