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LRB104 13679 LAW 26346 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated (Delta Sigma Theta), an organization primarily of Black, college-educated women committed to public service, was founded by 22 visionary collegiate women on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. on January 13, 1913; and

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WHEREAS, In their first public act as an organization, the founding members of Delta Sigma Theta participated in the Women's Suffrage Procession in Washington, D.C. on March 3, 1913, demonstrating their commitment to political advocacy and social justice from the organization's inception; and

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WHEREAS, For more than 112 years, the members of Delta Sigma Theta have upheld their organization's commitment to sisterhood, scholarship, service, and social action, particularly addressing issues impacting the Black community and boldly confronting the challenges of African Americans and, hence, all Americans through established programs based on the sorority's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust, which include Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement operationalized through Social Action; and

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1 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta has expanded its reach to
2 include more than 1,050 chartered chapters worldwide, with
3 more than 350,000 initiated members representing diverse
4 backgrounds and professions, including prominent leaders in
5 government, education, healthcare, business, arts, and
6 community service; and

7 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta has 28 distinguished alumnae
8 and collegiate chapters based in cities and counties across
9 the State of Illinois, including Chicago, Springfield, East
10 St. Louis, Urbana-Champaign, Carbondale, and other
11 communities, which have positively impacted countless lives
12 through mentorship programs, scholarships, voter education and
13 registration, health initiatives, and economic development
14 projects; and

15 WHEREAS, The members of Delta Sigma Theta in Illinois have
16 been instrumental in advancing civil rights, promoting
17 educational excellence, fostering economic opportunities, and
18 advocating for the well-being of underserved and
19 underrepresented communities; and

20 WHEREAS, The members of Delta Sigma Theta in Illinois have
21 hosted Delta Days at the State Capitol Building in Springfield
22 on a regular basis since March 31, 2004, with a recent theme
23 being "Fortitude on the Frontline in Illinois"; and

1 WHEREAS, The members of Delta Sigma Theta in Illinois have
2 strengthened our State's social fabric, improved our
3 educational institutions, enhanced our democratic processes,
4 and enriched our cultural landscape, and the historical
5 significance of the group as a preeminent, international, and
6 service-based sorority, whose members continue to exemplify
7 excellence and commitment to social action, leadership
8 development, and community empowerment should be celebrated;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we commend Delta Sigma
12 Theta Sorority, Incorporated for its outstanding legacy of
13 public service and advocacy, and we commend its members for
14 their steadfast dedication to creating positive change in
15 communities throughout Illinois and internationally; and be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the regional and state leadership of Delta Sigma
19 Theta Sorority, Inc. as an symbol of our esteem and respect.