

House Resolution 817

By: Representatives Davis of the 87th, Burnough of the 77th, Cummings of the 39th, Jones of the 60th, and Jackson of the 165th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for its 111 years of service and recognizing
2 January 29, 2024, as Delta Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a public service organization founded on
4 January 13, 1913, by 22 visionary collegiate women at Howard University in Washington,
5 D.C.; and

6 WHEREAS, the founding members included Osceola Macarthy Adams, Marguerite Young
7 Alexander, Winona Cargile Alexander, Ethel Cuff Black, Bertha Pitts Campbell, Zephyr
8 Chisom Carter, Edna Brown Coleman, Jessie McGuire Dent, Frederica Chase Dodd, Myra
9 Davis Hemmings, Olive Jones, Jimmie Bugg Middleton, Pauline Oberdorfer Minor, Vashti
10 Turley Murphy, Naomi Sewell Richardson, Mamie Reddy Rose, Eliza P. Shippen, Florence
11 Letcher Toms, Ethel Carr Watson, Wertie Blackwell Weaver, Madree Penn White, and Edith
12 Motte Young; and

13 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a sisterhood of college educated women
14 dedicated to academic excellence and committed to community service; and

15 WHEREAS, more than 300,000 women have joined the organization to implement the
16 sorority's mission through its five point programmatic thrust of educational development,
17 economic development, political awareness and involvement, physical and mental health,
18 and international awareness and involvement; and

19 WHEREAS, the sorority has more than 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the
20 United States as well as internationally, including Germany, England, Japan, the Virgin
21 Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and the Republic of Korea; and

22 WHEREAS, Delta Days at Georgia State Capitol has instituted the Georganna Sinkfield
23 Servant Leadership Award in recognition of her service as the longest serving female in the
24 history of the Georgia General Assembly; the Pota E. Coston Trailblazer Award, named for
25 the first African American female commissioner elected in Fayette County, Georgia; and the
26 Social Action Collegiate Change Agent Award, which is awarded to a student actively
27 involved in student government association leadership or partner organizations who
28 demonstrates the ability to create change in either the campus or community environment;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, members of this illustrious sisterhood serve as elected officials, lend support
31 to various local communities, and lead dialogues on public policy throughout their
32 communities; and

33 WHEREAS, its members are committed to initiatives in alignment with its theme of "Taking
34 A Stand by Taking Our Seats: Making an impact for 111 years through sisterhood,
35 scholarship, service, and social action!," allowing the members to continue its legacy of
36 social justice through civic engagement; and

37 WHEREAS, House members include Representatives Rhonda Burnough, Terry Cummings,
38 Viola Davis, Edna Jackson, and Sheila Jones.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
40 the members of this body commend the efforts of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for its 111
41 years of continued commitment to public service and its work in making the State of Georgia
42 a better place in which to live and recognize January 29, 2024, as Delta Day at the state
43 capitol.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
45 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Delta
46 Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.