

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 395

BY REPRESENTATIVES NEWELL, BILLINGS, CHASSION, FISHER, KNOX, LYONS,  
MARCELLE, MURRAY, TAYLOR, AND WALTERS

A RESOLUTION

To commemorate the ninetieth anniversary of the 1936 charter of the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., was chartered in June 1936 and supports the sorority's mission of service, scholarship, and social action; the chapter's history reflects resilience, leadership, and a dedication to uplifting generations through education, advocacy, and civic engagement; 2026 marks the ninetieth year of sisterhood, growth, and public service in the Greater New Orleans area; and

WHEREAS, the chapter's charter members were Ema Joyce Adams Bailey, Melva Dier Borris, Julia Washington Bond, Sadie Nelson Boyce, Elizabeth Stubbs Davis, Jessie Covington Dent, Irene Colbert Edmonds, Oralee Baranco Mitchell, Sylvia Labat Randall, Estelle Baranco Turpin, and Naomi Evans Washington, eleven exceptional women who brought the sorority's first chapter to the city of New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of leadership continued through the line of past presidents and leaders such as Cynthia Butler-McIntyre, Gloria Bryant-Banks, Carolyn E. Lewis, Pamela M. Rogers, and many others who have shaped the direction of the chapter and contributed to the sorority's global impact; and

WHEREAS, while the chapter was chartered as the Alpha Eta Sigma Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., its level of excellence continued after the name was changed to the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter; the sorority's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust is economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter has organized nine service projects that have positively impacted citizens in the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Bernard; such programs include gathering to worship and venerating the Christian principles on which the sorority was founded, sharing stories, recording reflections, and preserving the chapter's

history; there are more than seven hundred active members whose individual acts of service benefit the community at large; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter has generated millions of dollars in economic activity and brought thousands of visitors to New Orleans by hosting three regional conferences and three national conventions; the chapter has awarded more than five hundred thousand dollars in scholarships to students attending colleges and universities in the Greater New Orleans area and sponsored numerous signature programs designed to develop local youth; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter has provided compassionate care and support to communities experiencing natural disasters and other hardships across the world; the chapter promotes health education, community health fairs, healthcare access, and research on health disparities; it also promotes voter registration, voter education, voter participation, and civic engagement with state and local government officials; and

WHEREAS, the ninetieth anniversary of the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter is not only a celebration of the past but a catalyst for renewed commitment to the future of the chapter and the broader community; it is fitting to reflect on the chapter's history, mission, and vision for years to come.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commemorate the ninetieth anniversary of the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and does hereby express best wishes as its members reflect, celebrate, and renew their commitment to the sorority's mission of service, scholarship, and social action.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES