

Senate Resolution 823

By: Senator Butler of the 55th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., for its continued commitment to public  
2 service and its collective contributions in helping to make the State of Georgia a better place  
3 to live and work and recognizing February 1, 2016, as Delta Day at the state capitol; and for  
4 other purposes.

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

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

15 WHEREAS, only weeks after its founding, the sorority's first public act of service involved  
16 participation in the women's suffrage movement; and

17 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is a sisterhood of college-educated women  
18 dedicated to academic excellence and committed to providing assistance; and

19 WHEREAS, more than 200,000 women have joined this illustrious organization, with 1,000  
20 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the United States and around the world, including  
21 chapters in England, Japan, Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica,  
22 and the Republic of Korea; and

23 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is composed of women committed for a  
24 lifetime to implementing the sorority's mission through its Five Point Program Thrust of  
25 educational development, economic development, political awareness and involvement,  
26 physical and mental health, and international awareness and involvement; and

27 WHEREAS, legislative briefings, issue forums, the development of advocacy skills, and  
28 meetings with key policymakers, members of the United States Congress, staff members, and  
29 experts are all part of the sorority's established platform; and

30 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., honors former State Representative  
31 Georganna Sinkfield with its Annual Servant Leadership Award in recognition of her service  
32 as the longest serving female in the history of the Georgia General Assembly and former  
33 Commissioner Pota E. Coston with its Pota E. Coston Trailblazer Award in recognition of  
34 her service as the first African American female commissioner elected in Fayette County,  
35 Georgia; and

36 WHEREAS, numerous individuals have contributed to the successful legacy of Delta Sigma  
37 Theta Sorority, Inc.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
39 commend Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., for its continued commitment to public service  
40 and its collective contributions in helping to make the State of Georgia a better place to live  
41 and work and recognize February 1, 2016, as Delta Day at the state capitol.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
43 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Delta Sigma Theta  
44 Sorority, Inc.