

## Senate Resolution 775

By: Senator Butler of the 55th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. for its 107 years of service and recognizing  
2 March 2, 2020, 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, the sorority's first public act of service occurred weeks after its inception with  
14 its participation in the Women's Suffrage Movement, demanding the right to vote for women.  
15 This year also marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which gave women that  
16 precious right. In addition, 2020 also marks the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act  
17 of 1965, which finally gave African Americans their right to vote along with the celebration  
18 of the Selma Montgomery March, where Georgia Congressman John Lewis was brutally  
19 beaten on the bridge; and

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

22 WHEREAS, more than 300,000 women have joined the organization to implement the  
23 sorority's mission through its Five Point Programmatic Thrust of Educational Development,

24 Economic Development, Political Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health,  
25 and International Awareness and Involvement; and

26 WHEREAS, the sorority has more than 1,000 Collegiate and Alumnae Chapters located in  
27 the United States as well as internationally in Germany, England, Japan, the Virgin Islands,  
28 Bermuda, the Bahamas, and the Republic of Korea; and

29 WHEREAS, Delta Day at the Georgia State Capitol has instituted the Georganna Sinkfield  
30 Servant Leadership Award in recognition of her service as the longest serving female in the  
31 history of the Georgia General Assembly; the Pota E. Coston Trailblazer Award named for  
32 the first African American female commissioner elected in Fayette County, Georgia; and the  
33 Social Action Collegiate Change Agent Award awarded to a student actively involved in  
34 Student Government Association (SGA) leadership or partner organizations who  
35 demonstrates the ability to create change in either the campus or community environment;  
36 and

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

40 WHEREAS, members are committed to initiatives in alignment with the sorority's biennial  
41 theme of "Joy in our Sisterhood, Power in our Voice and Service in our Heart," which  
42 encourages the members to continue its legacy of social justice through civic engagement.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
44 commend Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. for its continued commitment to public service  
45 and its work in making the State of Georgia a better place in which to live and recognize  
46 March 2, 2020, as Delta Day at the state capitol.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
48 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Delta Sigma Theta  
49 Sorority Inc.