



SR1033

LRB102 27470 LAW 39264 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Gamma Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was chartered in East St. Louis on June 6, 1942; and

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WHEREAS, The Gamma Eta Chapter was organized through the efforts of Bessie B. Garvin, an educator and the first president of a group of ten dynamic women, holding the distinction as the first Greek letter organization established in East St. Louis; and

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WHEREAS, The Gamma Eta Chapter was renamed the East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter (ESLAC) in 1958; and

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WHEREAS, The East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter chartered an undergraduate chapter, Epsilon Xi, on the campuses of Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville and Carbondale in 1964; and

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WHEREAS, The East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter crowned Jacqueline Storman Turnage as its first Ms. Delta; and

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WHEREAS, The East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter's program, the Mini Teen Lift, provides educational opportunities and cultural awareness for teenagers in the East St. Louis

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1 community; and

2 WHEREAS, One of the East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter's
3 signature programs, Breakfast with Santa, was envisioned in
4 1971, and it continues to grow and bring joy to hundreds of
5 children in the community each year; and

6 WHEREAS, The East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter, in
7 partnership with other prominent local organizations, launched
8 the national initiative School America; and

9 WHEREAS, Through years of commitment, location
10 transitions, and dedication, the East St. Louis Alumnae
11 Chapter broke ground on the Delta Child Development Center at
12 1012 South 15th in East St. Louis in 1988; and

13 WHEREAS, The East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter and the Delta
14 Economic Development Corporation broke ground on a new
15 childcare playground in 1993, which serves both the State
16 Community Drop-in Center and the Delta Child Development
17 Center; and

18 WHEREAS, Members of the East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter
19 partnered with Habitat for Humanity on July 17, 1994, building
20 five homes in the 500 block of 49th Street in East St. Louis;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, The East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter has more than
2 250 members today and is currently led by President Pamela M.
3 Weston; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare June 6, 2022
6 as Delta Sigma Theta Gamma Eta Chapter Day in the State of
7 Illinois; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter as an
10 expression of our esteem and respect.