

By Senator Lawson

6-01392-10

20101482

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 16, 2010, as "Florida Sigma Zeta Day" at the Capitol.

WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C., on January 9, 1914, by A.

Langston Taylor, Leonard F. Morse, and Charles I. Brown, and

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C., on January 16, 1920, by Arizona Cleaver, Myrtle Tyler, Viola Tyler, Fannie Pettie, and Pearl Neal, and

WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., are the only constitutionally bound, historically black Greek fraternal organizations, and

WHEREAS, both Sigma and Zeta address the societal ills of the current day, such as gaps in the availability and accessibility of health care to racial and ethnic minority groups, and

WHEREAS, research indicates that blacks are disproportionately impacted by cancer, infant mortality, and HIV/AIDS; have less access to adequate health care; and are more likely to not have health insurance coverage, and

WHEREAS, state and local partnerships are vital to promoting awareness of minority health issues, such as increasing screenings for breast, colon, and prostate cancers; raising awareness of sudden infant death syndrome; and establishing more HIV testing sites, and

WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., addresses improving men's health through Sigma Wellness, Living Well -

6-01392-10

20101482\_\_

30 Brother to Brother, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., strives to  
31 enhance community and women's health through Z-HOPE - Zetas  
32 Helping Other People Excel - and Zeta Health Justice  
33 initiatives, and

34 WHEREAS, Florida State Senator Al Lawson and Florida State  
35 Representative Betty Reed support the efforts of Phi Beta Sigma  
36 Fraternity, Inc., and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., as sponsors  
37 of the organizations' social action initiatives addressing  
38 health disparities, NOW, THEREFORE,

39

40 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

41

42 That March 16, 2010, is recognized as "Florida Sigma Zeta  
43 Day" at the Capitol.