

By Senator Osgood

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Senate Resolution

A resolution honoring Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, on the occasion of its Florida State Leadership Conference and recognizing the organization's advocacy for the Extraordinary Power of S.H.E. – the Social, Health, and Economic Justice Initiative.

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, founded January 16, 1920, at Howard University, has upheld the principles of scholarship, service, sisterhood, and finer womanhood for more than a century, advancing civic engagement and advocacy that strengthen families and communities, and

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, is an organization of college women organized as a sister group to Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated, that bind themselves together to promote "the cause of education by encouraging the highest standards of scholarship through scientific, literary, cultural, and educational programs; promoting charitable projects on college campuses and within the community; fostering the spirit of sisterly love; and promoting the ideal of finer womanhood," and

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity comprise the only constitutionally bound, brother-and-sister black Greek-letter organization, and

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority's Florida State Leadership Conference serves as a vital platform for leadership development, community engagement, and legislative advocacy, empowering members to enact meaningful changes through policy

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30 and service that promotes overall community advancement, and

31 WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority members have been
32 relentless in demonstrating a strong commitment to community
33 service, and through their Zetas Helping Other People Excel (Z-
34 HOPE) initiative, they have organized and executed more than
35 150,000 programs, reaching and positively impacting more than 5
36 million individuals, and

37 WHEREAS, the sorority's financial commitment of more than
38 \$8 million to the Extraordinary Power of S.H.E., the Social,
39 Health, and Economic Justice initiative, is a testament to the
40 members' dedication to advancing social justice by advocating
41 for voting rights, criminal justice reform, sensible and
42 responsible firearms legislation, and equitable education
43 policies; promoting health equity through affordable health
44 care, improved maternal health, Medicaid expansion, mental
45 health access, and preventive care in marginalized communities;
46 and ensuring economic justice by supporting fair wages,
47 workforce development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship,
48 and

49 WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority has a long-standing
50 national partnership with the March of Dimes, a collaboration
51 that has contributed significantly to the fight against maternal
52 and infant health disparities through improved access to
53 prenatal care, policies that better protect mothers and babies,
54 and increased awareness about black maternal health, and

55 WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority proudly honors the
56 remarkable contributions of one of its members, Jennifer
57 "Jennie" Joseph, whose visionary work as a midwife, her
58 recognition as the 2022 Time Magazine Woman of the Year, and her

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59 advocacy for maternal health have been instrumental in reducing
60 maternal and infant mortality rates, particularly among black
61 and marginalized communities in Florida and beyond, and

62 WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority collaborates to actively
63 support local, state, and national legislation that aligns with
64 its S.H.E. initiative, with Zetas working alongside state
65 legislators, advocacy groups, and national partners to champion
66 policies that promote equity and justice for marginalized
67 communities, ensuring impactful advocacy and community
68 empowerment, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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72 That the Senate honors the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Florida
73 State Leadership Conference, Incorporated, and recognizes the
74 organization's advocacy for the Extraordinary Power of S.H.E. -
75 the Social, Health, and Economic Justice Initiative.

76 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
77 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Zeta Phi Beta
78 Sorority, Incorporated, Leadership, Dr. Stacie N.C. Grant,
79 International President and CEO; the Florida State Director,
80 Bridgette Howard; and the Social Action Coordinators, Dr. Trina
81 Sanders and Paulette Bartlett, as a tangible token of the
82 sentiments of the Florida Senate.