

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 325

Reps. Love, Brenda Carter, Bolden, Anthony, Yancey, Garza, Gay-Dagnogo, Hope, Cynthia Johnson, Koleszar, Kuppa, Pohutsky, Sneller, Sowerby, Wittenberg and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare November 12, 2020, as Sigma Gamma Rho
2 Sorority, Incorporated Founders' Day in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated was founded on
4 the campus of Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1922
5 in the epicenter of the Ku Klux Klan. It's the first and only
6 historically black sorority formed at a predominately white
7 institution; and

8 Whereas, The seven educators who founded Sigma Gamma Rho
9 Sorority, Incorporated envisioned an organization for African
10 American women steeped in the bounds of sisterhood dedicated to
11 uplifting the community through community service, education,

1 civil, and social action; and

2 Whereas, This organization of diverse professional women is
3 dedicated to the encouragement and promotion of high scholastic
4 attainment, community service, and improved quality of life through
5 its chapters, members, and affiliates located through the United
6 States, Korea, Bermuda, Africa, Bahamas, Canada, the Caribbean,
7 Germany, and United Arab Emirates; and

8 Whereas, Through programing, education, and advocacy, Sigma
9 Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated has become a leading national
10 service organization working to address socioeconomic issues that
11 impact our communities in the U.S. and globally through programs
12 such as Swim 1922, Project Cradle Care, Wee Savers, Operation Big
13 Bookbag, and our annual Youth Symposium; and

14 Whereas, The Women of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated
15 is celebrating its 97th anniversary during this year; and

16 Whereas, Michigan hosts over 18 Sigma Gamma Rho chapters which
17 are located on college and university campuses and have active
18 alumnae chapters throughout the state that lend their time and
19 talents to enrich and enhance the fabric of our state.

20 Whereas, The central region is home to chapters serving
21 Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri,
22 Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and
23 Wisconsin, in addition to the Canadian divisions of Windsor,
24 Ontario and west to Saskatchewan, Baffin Islands, Greenland,
25 Iceland, Queen Elizabeth Islands and Germany; and

26 Whereas, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated members have
27 made their mark in every aspect of life. Sone notable members
28 include Hattie McDaniel, the first African-American to win an
29 Academy Award, actors Victoria Rowell and Anna Maria Horsford, and

1 rap pioneer MC Lyte. Rep. Leslie Love is the first member of Sigma
2 Gamma Rho to serve in the Michigan House of Representative and the
3 only currently serving in the 100th Legislature; now, therefore, be
4 it

5 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
6 this legislative body declare November 12, 2020, as Sigma Gamma Rho
7 Sorority, Incorporated Founders' Day in the state of Michigan; and
8 be it further

9 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
10 Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated.