

1 Introduced by Council Member Newby and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Hazouri, DeFoor, Freeman, Morgan, Pittman and Salem:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2020-41-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CELEBRATING ZETA PHI
7 BETA AND PROCLAIMING JANUARY 16TH AS ZETA DAY;
8 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, on January 16, 1920, on the campus of Howard
11 University in Washington D.C., five African American women pledged
12 to offer other women the opportunity to excel in Scholarship,
13 Service, and Sisterhood, while exhibiting the attributes of Finer
14 Womanhood and established the first chapter of Zeta Phi Beta
15 Sorority, Inc.; and

16 **WHEREAS**, since inception, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., has
17 expanded into an international sorority with more than 600 chapters
18 abroad. The Sorority's programs are opportunities to transform
19 communities while serving women, children, veterans, men, and the
20 elderly. One of the Sorority's international outreach programs is
21 Z-HOPE (Zetas Helping Other People Excel) designed to enhance,
22 cultivate and empower participants from all walks of life to
23 develop and promote healthy lifestyle choices across their
24 lifespan; and

25 **WHEREAS**, in 1943, Mamie Lucille Butler, Alpha Hayes Moore, and
26 three others returned to Jacksonville from different Historically
27 Black Colleges and initiated a request from the national executive
28 board for permission to establish a graduate chapter. Thus, the
29 Beta Alpha Zeta Chapter of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority was chartered
30 on April 12, 1944. The Beta Alpha Zeta Chapter became the first
31 local African American Sorority to own a sorority house that served

1 as a community center. The sorority house and Zeta Park are located
2 at 3805 Moncrief Road in the Northwest quadrant of Jacksonville.
3 Also, the Beta Alpha Zeta Chapter became the first sorority to own
4 and operate a child development center, first to open a Stork's
5 Nest, and first to charter an Amicae. The Stork's Nest is an
6 incentive program designed to promote prenatal care participation
7 and encourage healthy behaviors during pregnancy to women in low-
8 income households. Amicae is an auxiliary established for special
9 friends of the Sorority that exemplifies prestige, goodwill and
10 cooperation among women; and

11 **WHEREAS**, on November 7, 2011, thirteen dedicated women
12 chartered the Omega Zeta Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority,
13 Inc., to primarily service the Southside and the Beaches areas in
14 Jacksonville. The members are comprised of a dynamic group of women
15 committed to active engagement in service, charity, scholarship,
16 civic and cultural endeavors, as well as economic and community
17 development initiatives. The Omega Zeta Zeta Chapter represents the
18 diversity of Zeta Phi Beta and the importance of opportunity,
19 service, and expansion. Over the past eight years, this chapter has
20 accepted the challenge to inspire and motivate others in the
21 pursuit of finer womanhood; and

22 **WHEREAS**, over the past 100 years, the National Zeta Phi Beta
23 Sorority, Inc., membership has increased to over 125,000 college-
24 educated, dynamic, community service driven, diverse, and
25 professional women. Each member continues to uphold the ideals of
26 its Founders of Service, Scholarship, Sisterhood, and Finer
27 Womanhood; now therefore

28 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

29 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
30 commends the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., on their centennial
31 celebration and proclaims January 16th Zeta Day. We extend our best

1 wishes and gratitude to the members of Beta Alpha Zeta Chapter for
2 75 years of service and the Omega Zeta Zeta Chapter for their
3 commitment to the City of Jacksonville through social, cultural,
4 and educational opportunities for its residents.

5 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
6 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
7 without the Mayor's signature.

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9 Form Approved:

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11 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

12 Office of General Counsel

13 Legislation Prepared By: Yvonne P. Mitchell, City Council Research

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