

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated

A Public Service Sorority Founded in 1913

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Dear Sorors:

As Election Day approaches us in a mere 100 days, I write to you about Delta Sigma Theta's "**Countdown to Election.**" The National Social Action Commission has been working diligently to focus on ways that we can ensure that every member of our community is registered to vote and armed with accurate, up-to-date information on how to register and cast a ballot in their neighborhood. As community leaders and agents of change, it is more important than ever that we educate our neighbors and loved ones about the evolving voter registration laws and practices. With new laws being enacted around the country, many Americans will be affected by changes in their state voting laws if:

- They don't have a birth certificate or government issued identification and can't afford to get one.
- They married and had a name change.
- They are students who want to vote where you go to school.
- They recently moved.
- They have not voted in the most recent election.

With these critical changes in state laws, we have asked the Regional Directors, regional and state social action coordinators to work closely with you to make sure that no one is denied the right to vote in this upcoming national election. As individuals, and as chapters, we must take a break from "the lazy days of summer" to address this issue. Although we are sure that you are already working in your community with family and friends to address these issues, please answer the call to action that you will receive from your regional and state officers. Their action plans will encourage chapters and sorors to:

1. Establish working groups to determine how the changes to voter registration laws will impact their states/locales;
2. Develop a list of regional activities that each chapter can commit to implementing immediately and leading up to Election Day. The activities will address voter education and remedies/actions to combat rules and regulations that may be in place in their states that would prevent people from voting.

If you need technical assistance or would like to offer suggestions, please contact National Headquarters at vote2012@deltasigmatheta.org and Sorors Candi Mundon King, Public Policy Specialist or Ella McNair, Director of Programs/Publications and Public Relations will readily assist you and/or refer your inquiry to the Co-Chairs, Gwendolyn Boyd and Patricia Lattimore or a member of the National Social Action Commission for a response. Also, please check the Social Action Center at www.deltasigmatheta.org regularly for the monthly messages and other tips.

We cannot let these changes stop our communities from fully using the voting rights that our predecessors fought and died for. As a non-partisan organization, we must continue to stress that it is not about parties or politics; it is about exercising our constitutional right to participate in the democratic process that makes America a great place to live. It is about playing our part in determining the future of our country.

Sorors, as you know, we are facing a very critical election in November. We all know what is at stake for us, our communities and our nation. It is imperative that every citizen have the right to vote and be armed with the knowledge of what the requirements are where they vote and what their rights are as voters. So, I am asking for your full support for these initiatives. **YOU KNOW WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU as always to help MAKE THIS HAPPEN!**

Sincerely,

Cynthia M. A. Butler-McIntyre

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National President

Rev. Gwendolyn E. Boyd

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Co-Chair, National Social Action Commission

Patricia Lattimore

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