



# DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

*A Service Sorority Founded in 1913*

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Supports the Protection of Reproductive Rights**

Over 40 years ago, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. adopted a resolution in support of reproductive rights. Today, we continue to support the idea that American women should have agency over their own bodies. This aligns with the Sorority's stance against the denial of rights, access to healthcare, and promotes the important choice for all American citizens. The passage of draconian laws such as the abortion ban in Alabama and the "heartbeat" laws in Georgia, Louisiana, North Dakota, Ohio, Kentucky, Arkansas, Mississippi, and 11 other states are a direct attack on rights and freedoms that extend far beyond this singular issue.

Alabama's law which effectively bans abortion – and institutes felony penalties for health providers who perform them - is a giant step backward for women's health. The "heartbeat" laws banning abortions as early as six weeks into a woman's gestational period, could force women to self-induce abortions or turn to desperate solutions like abdominal trauma if they choose to not carry an embryo to term and no longer have safe and affordable pregnancy termination options.

Delta will not be silent until the inalienable rights - rights to healthcare, rights to a fair criminal justice system, and the protected right to vote is made available for all American citizens.

Therefore, we urge our members to stand against these injustices locally by closely monitoring and resisting legislative efforts to deny women access to reproductive choice. Our fight for liberty and justice for all must continue despite the many unjust pieces of legislation that are being passed. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will continue to, in the words of member and civil rights advocate Fannie Lou Hamer, "Support whatever is right, and to bring in justice where we've had so much injustice."

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## **ABOUT DELTA SIGMA THETA**

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was founded in 1913 on the campus of Howard University to promote academic excellence; to provide scholarships; to provide support to the underserved; educate and stimulate participation in the establishment of positive public policy; and to highlight issues and provide solutions for problems in their communities. Today Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has over 300,000 initiated members and more than 900 chapters worldwide. The Sorority uses its Five-Point Programmatic Thrust of economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement to create its national programs.

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