

By: Senator L. Chesterfield

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC., FOR ITS SERVICE WORK AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO ITS COMMUNITIES; AND TO DESIGNATE MARCH 12, 2015, AS ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DAY AT THE ARKANSAS STATE CAPITOL.

Subtitle

TO COMMEND ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC., FOR ITS SERVICE WORK AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO ITS COMMUNITIES; AND TO DESIGNATE MARCH 12, 2015, AS ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DAY AT THE ARKANSAS STATE CAPITOL.

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, founded on January 15, 1908, on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., is America's first Greek-letter organization for African-American women; and

WHEREAS, the sorority was conceived by Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and 15 other visionaries who resolved that their college experience should be meaningful and productive; and

WHEREAS, that small group grew to a membership of more than 265,000 college-educated women from around the world, with an active membership of over 49,000 women who represent a diverse group; and

WHEREAS, its membership includes educators, heads of state, politicians, lawyers, medical professionals, media personalities, and decision-makers in major corporations; and



WHEREAS, well-known honorary members of Alpha Kappa Alpha include Marian Anderson, Maya Angelou, Ella Fitzgerald, Mae Jemison, Coretta Scott King, and Judge Constance Baker Motley; and local and state-wide members include Judge Andree Layton Roaf, former Senator Irma Hunter Brown, former Representative Nancy Blount, former Representative Wilhelmina Lewellen, and Senator Linda Chesterfield; and

WHEREAS, there are 20 chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha throughout the State of Arkansas, consisting of 8 undergraduate chapters and 12 graduate chapters; and each chapter is proud of its community efforts in the areas of education, the arts, economic development, and healthcare; and

WHEREAS, internationally Alpha Kappa Alpha responds to the contemporary needs of the black community with comprehensive nontraditional programs; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha's mission of "Service to All Mankind" began at its inception, and as a result the sorority has remained at the forefront of positive change in American life; and

WHEREAS, currently, the Alpha Kappa Alpha International President has set forth the 2014-2018 theme of "Launching New Dimensions of Service" wherein the organization will address issues related to educational enrichment, health promotion, family strengthening, environmental ownership, and global impact; and

WHEREAS, during each biennial legislative session of the General Assembly, a day in March is designated as "AKA Day at the Capitol", drawing together Arkansas's constitutional officers, elected officials, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority members from across the state to encourage participation in the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, this year, Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the State Capitol is March 12,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE

OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate of the Ninetieth General Assembly commends Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., for its service work and contributions to its communities, and the Senate celebrates March 12, 2015, as Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the Arkansas State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy be provided by the Secretary of the Senate to Chelle Luper Wilson, the South Central Regional Director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.