

By: Senator L. Chesterfield

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY,
INC.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND OMEGA PSI PHI
FRATERNITY, INC.

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was the first national African-American fraternity to be founded at an historically black college when it was established on November 17, 1911, at Howard University; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi was created in the office of Professor Ernest E. Just by 3 Howard University students, Edgar A. Love, Oscar J. Cooper, and Frank Coleman; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi was formed from the initials of the Greek phrase meaning, "friendship is essential to the soul", and that phrase was adopted as the fraternity's motto; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi since its inception has aimed to build a strong, effective, and dedicated force of African-American men who are committed to the cardinal principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi requires each of its members to exhibit the qualities of the cardinal principles: manhood, which is being appropriate in character and marked by moral excellence, courage, bravery, and resolve;



scholarship, which is demonstrating an attitude toward education by learning and being informed by achieving or exceeding and maintaining the minimum educational requirements of the fraternity; perseverance, which is exhibiting a “spirit” of brotherhood, togetherness, humility, cooperation, and a willingness to go an extra mile for the goal sought as a responsible first-class citizen; and uplift, which is sharing one’s gifts with the community in the form of verifiable aid, activism, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi has established itself as an unique group of men that encourages a standard of excellence and community service and assists in the building of character and leadership development among men; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi currently has over 700 chapters throughout the United States, the Bahamas, Bermuda, the Virgin Islands, Korea, Japan, Liberia, Germany, and Kuwait; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi has 20 graduate and undergraduate chapters throughout the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi actively participates in and contributes to charitable organizations including Habitat for Humanity, the American Diabetes Association, the United Way, and the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi gives at least \$50,000 annually to the United Negro College Fund in furtherance of Omega Psi Phi’s commitment to provide philanthropic support and to invest in the education of future African-American leaders; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi’s membership legacy includes Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Wiley Branton, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Vernon E. Jordan Jr., Robert C. Weaver, Dr. Charles Drew, Langston Hughes, Sterling Brown, Keith Jackson, Corliss Williamson, Shaquille O’Neal, and Michael Jordan; and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2017, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will celebrate its one hundred sixth year of social action and service to the African-

American community,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate acknowledges and commends the members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity for outstanding service and leadership throughout the State of Arkansas and around the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be provided to the national headquarters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., by the Secretary of the Senate.