

By: Senator L. Chesterfield

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC., FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO DESIGNATE MARCH 24, 2021, AS ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DAY.

Subtitle

TO COMMEND ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC., FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO DESIGNATE MARCH 24, 2021, AS ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DAY.

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

WHEREAS, the sorority was conceived by Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and fifteen (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 three hundred thousand (300,000) college-educated women from around the world, with an active membership of over seventy-five thousand (75,000) women who represent a diverse group; and

WHEREAS, its membership includes educators, heads of state, politicians, lawyers, medical professionals, media personalities, decision-makers in major corporations, and the current Vice President of the United States Kamala Harris; 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, Representative Jamie Scott, and Senator Linda Chesterfield; and

WHEREAS, there are twenty (20) chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha throughout the state, consisting of eight (8) undergraduate chapters and twelve (12) graduate chapters; and each chapter is proud of its community efforts in the areas of education, the arts, economic development, and health care; and

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

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate commend Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., for its service work and contributions to its communities, and celebrate March 24, 2021, as Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the Arkansas State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, an appropriate copy shall be provided by the Secretary of the Senate to Katina Semien, the South Central Regional Director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.