

By: Representative J. Richardson

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC. FOR ONE  
HUNDRED SIXTEEN (116) YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE.

### Subtitle

TO COMMEND ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY,  
INC. FOR ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN (116) YEARS  
OF COMMUNITY SERVICE.

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity is the first and oldest intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was founded on December 4, 1906, on the campus of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, by students who recognized the need for a strong bond of brotherhood among African descendants in this country; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was founded by visionaries, known as the "Jewels" of the fraternity, including Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity initially served as a study and support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice, both educationally and socially; and

WHEREAS, the Jewel founders and early leaders of the fraternity succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of



scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity; and

WHEREAS, chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity have served communities and campuses throughout Arkansas since 1926; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity continues to proliferate, spanning the globe with close to eight hundred (800) chapters and two hundred thousand (200,000) members located throughout the United States, Canada, various Caribbean islands, Africa, West Indies, Europe, and Asia; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity continues to stress academic excellence among its members and recognizes the educational, economic, political, and social challenges faced by African-Americans nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity participates in Project Alpha, Go To-High-School, Go-To-College, Boy Scouts of America, and A Voteless People Is A Hopeless People programs in response to those challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity motto is "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All"; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity nationally includes the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., W.E.B. DuBois, Paul Robeson, Dick Gregory, Thurgood Marshall, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., T. E. Patterson, Duke Ellington, Jesse Owens, and Marc Morial; and

WHEREAS, Members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity include many historical civil rights leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr., National Association for the Advancement of Colored People founder W. E. B. Du Bois, civic leader John Mack, Rev. Joseph E. Lowery, Rev. C.T. Vivian, and Dick Gregory; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was directly responsible for the conception, funding and construction of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial next to the National Mall in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the statewide network of Arkansas Alphas include among its membership the former President of AT&T Arkansas, Ronnie Dedman; the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Laurence B. Alexander, PhD; Dr. John Colbert, the Superintendent of the Fayetteville School District, the Mayor of Forrest City, Cedric Williams; the Mayor of Little Rock, Frank D. Scott Jr.; Senator Reginald Murdock; Representative Jay Richardson; former Representative John W. Walker; former Representative Monte Hodges; former Representative Tracy Steele; former Senator Jack Crumbly; former Representative Earnest Brown; former Representative Tommy Baker; former Senator Bill Lewellen; former Representative Jimmie Wilson; former Representative Booker T. Clemmons; former Representative John Lewellen; former Representative William H. Townsend; and former Senator Jerry Jewell; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, under the leadership of its General President, Dr. Willis L. Lonzer, is focused on the addressing the fraternity's past, current, and future role in shaping policy that impacts its communities,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives acknowledge the members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for providing over one hundred sixteen (116) years of outstanding service and leadership to their communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Jeramaine O. Netherly, Southwestern Region Vice President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Terence T. Cox, Arkansas District Director, by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.