

By: Senator J. Scott

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED®,
FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO
DESIGNATE FEBRUARY 25, 2025, AS ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DAY
AT THE STATE CAPITOL.

Subtitle

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INCORPORATED®, FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO
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25, 2025, AS ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DAY AT
THE STATE CAPITOL.

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

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, was conceived by Ethel Hedgemon Lyle and eight (8) 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 sixty thousand (360,000) college-educated women from around the world, with an active membership of one thousand seventy-four (1,074) chapters of over one hundred twenty thousand (120,000) women who represent a diverse group; and

WHEREAS, the membership of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®



includes educators, heads of state, politicians, lawyers, medical professionals, media personalities, decision makers in major corporations, former Vice President of the United States Kamala Harris, Little Rock Nine member the late Thelma Mothershed Wair, and late Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee; and

WHEREAS, well-known honorary members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, include Marian Anderson, Maya Angelou, Ella Fitzgerald, Mae Jemison, Coretta Scott King, Judge Constance Baker Motley, former First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, and former First Lady Michelle Obama; and

WHEREAS, local and statewide members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, include Judge Andree Layton Roaf, former Senator Irma Lee Hunter Brown, former Representative Nancy Blount, former Representative Wilhelmina Lewellen, Senator Jamie Scott, Representative Joy Springer, former Senator Linda Pondexter Chesterfield, and Deputy Director and Assistant Secretary of the Senate Sabrina NeKay E. Lewellen; and

WHEREAS, there are twenty-one (21) chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, throughout the state, 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 Sorority, Incorporated®, responds to the contemporary needs of the Black community with comprehensive nontraditional programs; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, "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 regular session of the General Assembly, a day is designated as Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the State Capitol, drawing together Arkansas's constitutional officers, elected officials, and sorority members from across the state, the south central region, and the

International Office of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, to encourage participation in the legislative process,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate commend Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, for its service work and contributions to the State of Arkansas, the south central region of the United States, and internationally, and celebrate February 25, 2025, as Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided by the Secretary of the Senate to Dr. Shawn G. Simmons, the South Central Regional Director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Mrs. DeMetris Sampson, International Connection Committee chairman of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, and Mrs. Alexandria Taylor, New Mexico Connection Committee chairman of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®.