

By: Senator J. Scott

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC., FOR
ITS POSITIVE IMPACT UPON ITS COMMUNITIES, THE STATE
OF ARKANSAS, THE NATION, AND THE WORLD.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY,
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WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., is a collegiate Greek-letter fraternity founded on January 5, 1911, at Indiana University in Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., has over one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) members in seven hundred (700) undergraduate and alumni chapters in every state of the United States and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., are risk takers, trailblazers, and changemakers with a passion for achievement in every field of human endeavor, uplifting their communities, and developing the current and next generation of leaders; and

WHEREAS, at the time of the founding of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., in Bloomington, Indiana, Indiana was a stronghold for the Ku Klux Klan, but despite the hostility toward Blacks in Indiana, some Black students sought a college education at Indiana University as it was a tuition-free



university of the highest quality; and

WHEREAS, during the 1910-1911 school year, a small group of Black students at Indiana University, realizing that they had no part in the university's social life, decided that a Greek-letter fraternity would do much to fill the missing link in their college existence, particularly as two (2) members of this group had previously attended Howard University in Washington, D.C., home of the only national historically Black Greek-letter fraternity then in existence; and

WHEREAS, the founding members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., were God-fearing and serious-minded young men with the imagination, ambition, courage, and determination to defy custom in pursuit of a college education and career, and they decided that their fraternity would be more than a social organization, and would instead be founded upon the concept of achievement; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., is the second-oldest existing collegiate historically Black Greek-letter fraternity, and its members are proud that its Constitution has never contained any clause that excludes a man from membership because of his color, creed, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, local chapters of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., participate in community outreach activities to feed the homeless, provide scholarships to young people matriculating to college, serve as mentors to young men, participate in blood drives, and serve as hosts of seminars for public health awareness, and the fraternity has also provided summer enrichment camps and over one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; and

WHEREAS, members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., have also answered the call to service by proudly serving in the United States Armed Forces since World War I and raising funds to assist those in need following natural disasters worldwide; and

WHEREAS, famed members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., include Wilt Chamberlain, Cedric the Entertainer, Arthur Ashe, Johnnie Cochran, John Conyers, Kwame Jackson, Bill Russell, Tavis Smiley, and Colin Kaepernick,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate recognize Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., for its positive impact upon its communities, the State of Arkansas, the nation, and the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to the leadership of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., by the Secretary of the Senate.