

By: Senator R. Murdock

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC., FOR ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN (118) YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP IN ITS COMMUNITIES.

Subtitle

TO COMMEND ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC., FOR ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN (118) YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP IN ITS COMMUNITIES.

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

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., 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, Inc., 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, Inc., 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 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., succeeded in laying a firm foundation for the fraternity's principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., 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, Inc., participates in Project Alpha, Go-To-High-School, Go-To-College, Scouting America, and A Voteless People is a Hopeless People programs in response to those challenges; and

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

WHEREAS, members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., include many legendary civil rights leaders such as the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., National Association for the Advancement of Colored People founder W.E.B. DuBois, civic leader John Mack, Reverend Joseph E. Lowery, and Reverend C.T. Vivian; and

WHEREAS, the national legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., includes musician and actor Paul Robeson, actor and comedian Dick Gregory, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, United States Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., political scientist T.E. Patterson, jazz musician Duke

Ellington, Olympian Jesse Owens, and National Urban League President Marc Morial; and

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

WHEREAS, the legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and its statewide network of Arkansas Alphas includes among its membership the former President of AT&T Arkansas Ronnie Dedman, Chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Laurence B. Alexander, Ph.D., former Superintendent of the Fayetteville School District Dr. John Colbert, former Mayor of Forrest City Cedric Williams, Mayor of Little Rock Frank D. Scott, Jr., Senator Reginald Murdock, Representative Jay Richardson, Representative Tracy Steele, former Representative John W. Walker, former Representative Monte Hodges, former Senator Jack Crumbly, former Representative Earnest Brown, former Representative Tommy Baker, 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, Inc., under the leadership of its General President Brother Lucien J. Metellus, Jr., is focused on addressing the fraternity's past, current, and future role in shaping policy that impacts its communities,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate commend Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., for one hundred eighteen (118) years of outstanding service and leadership in its communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided to Jermaine O. Netherly, Southwestern Region Vice President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Terence T. Cox, Arkansas District Director,

by the Secretary of the Senate.