



HR0354

LRB104 13717 LAW 26418 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was founded at
3 Howard University in Washington, D.C. on November 17, 1911,
4 becoming the first international fraternal organization
5 established on the campus of a historically Black college or
6 university (HBCU); and

7 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was established by
8 three Howard University students, Edgar Amos Love, Oscar James
9 Cooper, and Frank Coleman, with guidance from their faculty
10 advisor, Dr. Ernest Everett Just; and

11 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.'s name derives
12 from the initials of the Greek phrase meaning, "Friendship is
13 Essential to the Soul", and this phrase was adopted as the
14 fraternity's guiding motto; and

15 WHEREAS, Since its founding, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity,
16 Inc. has grown into a global brotherhood with over 750
17 chapters and tens of thousands of members across the United
18 States and abroad, including distinguished members in
19 government, education, medicine, business, athletics, and the
20 arts; and

21 WHEREAS, The men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. have

1 consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to community
2 uplift, civic engagement, and educational advancement through
3 nationally recognized programs, including the fraternity's
4 annual Achievement Week, the Talent Hunt competition, the
5 National High School Essay Contest, the Charles R. Drew Blood
6 Drive, the Assault on Illiteracy, the Fatherhood Initiative,
7 the Domestic Violence Awareness campaigns, and its voter
8 registration and mobilization efforts; and

9 WHEREAS, In Illinois, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.'s 31
10 active and passionate chapters have collectively contributed
11 thousands of hours of service, mentorship, and outreach in
12 communities across the State, ranging from Chicago and the
13 suburbs to downstate regions, and have donated hundreds of
14 thousands of dollars to scholarships and food security,
15 healthcare awareness, and youth development initiatives; and

16 WHEREAS, The Illinois leadership of Omega Psi Phi
17 Fraternity, Inc. has worked to ensure a visible and
18 constructive presence in the civic and political life of the
19 State, including organizing Omega Days at the Capitol to
20 engage lawmakers on policies affecting education, equity, and
21 community development; and

22 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. has selected the
23 City of Chicago as the host of its 2028 Grand Conclave, a

1 gathering that will bring thousands of Omega men and their
2 families to Illinois for fellowship, service, and celebration;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, On May 21, 2025, members of Omega Psi Phi
5 Fraternity, Inc. will gather at the Illinois State Capitol in
6 Springfield for Omega Psi Phi Day in Illinois, which will
7 serve as a day of advocacy, fellowship, and recognition of
8 their enduring commitment to service and social action;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we commend Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on its remarkable
13 history of leadership, service, and brotherhood, and we
14 welcome its members to the Capitol; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
16 presented to the Illinois chapters of Omega Psi Phi
17 Fraternity, Inc. as a token of our respect and esteem.