



HR0622

LRB097 14685 GRL 59732 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the Alpha Phi Alpha
4 Fraternity on the occasion of its 105th anniversary and the
5 Theta Mu Lambda Chapter of the fraternity on its 22nd Annual
6 Black and Gold Ball; and

7 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has supplied
8 voice and vision to the struggle of African-Americans and
9 people of color around the world since its founding on December
10 4, 1906; and

11 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha was founded at Cornell University
12 in Ithaca, New York by 7 college men who recognized the need
13 for a strong bond of brotherhood among African descendants in
14 the United States; the visionary founders, known as the
15 "Jewels" of the Fraternity, are Henry Arthur Callis, Charles
16 Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley,
17 Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner
18 Woodson Tandy; and

19 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha initially served as a study and
20 support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice,
21 both educationally and socially, at Cornell University; the
22 Jewel founders and early leaders of the Fraternity succeeded in

1 laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of
2 scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of
3 humanity; and

4 WHEREAS, True to its form as the "first of firsts", Alpha
5 Phi Alpha has been an interracial fraternity since 1945; and

6 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha recognizes the importance of
7 stressing academic excellence among its members, as well as the
8 need to help correct the educational, economic, political, and
9 social injustices faced by African-Americans; Alpha Phi Alpha
10 has long stood at the forefront of the African-American
11 community's fight for civil rights through civil rights leaders
12 such as W.E.B. DuBois, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Edward Brooke,
13 Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Andrew Young,
14 William Gray, Paul Robeson, and many others; and

15 WHEREAS, The Theta Mu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha
16 Fraternity was established on December 12, 1963 in Joliet to
17 serve the needs of community residents in the South Suburban
18 Chicago area; Theta Mu Lambda has served as a distinguished
19 part of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; and

20 WHEREAS, The members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity serve as
21 models of hard work, integrity, and dedication for the people
22 of the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate the members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity on
4 the occasion of its 105th anniversary and congratulate the
5 members of the Theta Mu Lambda Chapter of the fraternity on its
6 22nd Annual Black and Gold Ball, and wish them continued
7 success and happiness in the future; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
9 presented to Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the Theta Mu Lambda
10 Chapter of the fraternity as a symbol of our esteem and
11 respect.