

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 152

BY SENATOR BISHOP

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated upon the celebration of its one hundred tenth anniversary as an organization and recognizes Tuesday, May 24, 2016, as Alpha Phi Alpha Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated upon the celebration of its one
3 hundred tenth anniversary as an organization and recognizes Tuesday, May 24, 2016,
4 as Alpha Phi Alpha Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

5 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, was founded on December
6 4, 1906, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, as the first intercollegiate Greek-letter
7 organization established for African American men; and

8 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha has provided voice, insight, inspiration, and direction
9 to African Americans and people of color around the world; and

10 WHEREAS, the visionary founders of Alpha Phi Alpha, known as the "Seven
11 Jewels" of the fraternity, were Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene
12 Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and
13 Vertner Woodson Tandy; and

14 WHEREAS, the fraternity initially served as a study and support group for minority
15 students who faced racial prejudice, both educationally and socially, at Cornell; and

16 WHEREAS, the founders and early leaders of the fraternity succeeded in laying a
17 firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character,
18 and the uplifting of humanity; and

1 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha chapters were developed at other colleges and
2 universities soon after the founding at Cornell; and

3 WHEREAS, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, has numerous chapters
4 in the state of Louisiana, and its hundreds of chapters worldwide continue the legacy of their
5 predecessors by helping their fellow man, serving their communities, acting as mentors to
6 youth, and carrying on the tradition of one of their members, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., by
7 actively discussing civil rights; and

8 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha spearheaded and oversaw the designing and building
9 of a monument in Dr. King's honor, which is the newest memorial on the National Mall in
10 Washington, D.C., the first to honor a non-president, and the first to honor a man of color;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, other notable members of Alpha Phi Alpha include W.E.B. Dubois,
13 Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Edward Brooke, Thurgood Marshall, Paul Robeson, William
14 Gray, and Andrew Young; and

15 WHEREAS, this year, Alpha Phi Alpha members from across Louisiana will travel
16 to Baton Rouge in order to celebrate the contributions and sacrifices in the legislature of
17 seventeen past Alpha brothers and those currently serving: Representatives Patrick O.
18 Jefferson and Vincent J. Pierre, and Senators Wesley T. Bishop and Troy R. Brown; and

19 WHEREAS, the members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated desire to place
20 on record our love and esteem for our fallen brothers who faithfully served the citizens of
21 the state of Louisiana in the legislature and have now entered into our Omega Chapter
22 (deceased); these brothers are Ernest "Dutch" Morial, Nick Connor, Charles "Doc" Hudson,
23 Henry "Hank" Braden, and Alphonse Jackson Jr., and they are dearly missed; and

24 WHEREAS, it is appropriate to set aside a special day to commend Alpha Phi Alpha
25 Fraternity, Incorporated for its programs and activities that exemplify the importance of
26 service to all mankind and to recognize the positive impact the fraternity has on the state of
27 Louisiana.

28 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
29 does hereby commend Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated upon the celebration of the
30 one hundred tenth anniversary of the organization; does hereby express gratitude to the

