

2019 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY SENATOR BISHOP

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. Commends Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated upon the celebration of its 112<sup>th</sup> anniversary as and organization an recognizes May 8, 2019, as Alpha Phi Alpha Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

A RESOLUTION

To commend Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated upon the celebration of its one hundred twelfth anniversary as an organization and recognize Wednesday, May 8, 2019, as Alpha Phi Alpha Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, in 2018, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., celebrated the 112th anniversary of its founding as the first intercollegiate Greek letter fraternity established for African-American men; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha was founded on December 4, 1906, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, by seven college men known as the "jewels" of the fraternity, who recognized the need for a strong bond of brotherhood among African descendants; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha chapters were soon established at other colleges and universities, many of them historically black institutions; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Alpha Phi Alpha is to develop leaders and promote brotherhood and academic excellence, while providing service to and advocacy for their surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha initially served as a study and support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice at Cornell University and, throughout its

1 history, members of the fraternity have recognized the need to help correct the educational,  
2 economic, political, and social injustices faced by African Americans; and

3 WHEREAS, members of Alpha Phi Alpha have stood at the forefront of the Civil  
4 Rights movement and have supplied voice and vision to the struggle of African Americans  
5 and people of color around the world; and

6 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha has accepted men of all races since 1945 and the  
7 fraternity's motto is: "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All"; and

8 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha programs and charitable activities include the  
9 "Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College" campaign, "A Voteless People is a Hopeless People"  
10 voter registration campaign, Project Alpha, and the Martin Luther King Jr. National  
11 Memorial project; and

12 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha has numerous chapters in the state of Louisiana, and  
13 its hundreds of chapters worldwide continue the legacy of their predecessors by helping their  
14 fellow man, serving their communities, acting as mentors to youth, and carrying on the  
15 tradition of one of their members, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., by actively discussing civil  
16 rights; and

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

20 WHEREAS, this year, Alpha Phi Alpha members from across the state of Louisiana  
21 will assemble in Baton Rouge in order to celebrate the contributions and sacrifices in the  
22 legislature of eighteen past Alpha brothers and those currently serving:  
23 Senator Wesley T. Bishop and Representatives Ken Brass, Patrick O. Jefferson, and Vincent  
24 J. Pierre; and

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

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
30 does hereby commend Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., on celebrating 112 years of

1 scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity, and does hereby  
2 recognize Wednesday, May 8, 2019, as Alpha Phi Alpha Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.  
3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
4 Louisiana District Director, Southwestern Regional Vice President, Executive Director, and  
5 General President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., as an expression of the Senate of the  
6 Legislature of Louisiana's admiration for the fraternity's proud history of service and manly  
7 deeds.

---

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

---

	DIGEST	
SR 109 Original	2019 Regular Session	Bishop

Commends Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., on celebrating 112 years of scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity; and does hereby recognize Wednesday, May 8, 2019, as Alpha Phi Alpha Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.