

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 91

BY REPRESENTATIVES TRAVIS JOHNSON, PIERRE, BRASS, JEFFERSON, AND  
JONES

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates May 18, 2021, as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity  
Day at the state capitol

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, upon the celebration of its  
3 upcoming one hundred fifteenth anniversary as an organization and to recognize  
4 Tuesday, May 18, 2021, as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Day at the state capitol.

5 WHEREAS, in 2020, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, celebrated the one  
6 hundred fourteenth anniversary of its founding as the first Intercollegiate Greek letter  
7 fraternity established for African American men; and

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

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

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

17 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha initially served as a study and support group for  
18 minority students who faced racial prejudice at Cornell University, and throughout its  
19 history, members of the fraternity have recognized the need to help correct the educational,  
20 economic, political, and social injustices faced by African Americans; and

1           WHEREAS, members of Alpha Phi Alpha have stood at the forefront of the civil  
2 rights movement and have supplied vice and vision to the struggle of African Americans and  
3 people of color around the world; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

26           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
27 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated,  
28 on celebrating its upcoming one hundred fifteen years of scholarship, fellowship, good  
29 character, and the uplifting of humanity and does hereby recognize Tuesday, April 18, 2021,  
30 as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Day at the state capitol.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
2 Louisiana district director, Southwestern Regional vice president, executive director, and  
3 general president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HR 91 Original

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Travis Johnson

Commends Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., on its 115th anniversary and recognizes May 18, 2021, as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Day at the state capitol.