

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 88

BY SENATOR CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To recognize April 30, 2019, as "Kappa Day at the Kapitol".

WHEREAS, regarding Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity men, "Achievement" is what they do, "Commitment" is who they are, and "Fidelity" is how they live; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi, a college fraternity, now comprised of functioning undergraduate and alumni chapters on major campuses in cities throughout the country, is the crystallization of a dream; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the fraternity is the beautiful realization of a vision shared commonly by the late revered founders that enabled them in the school year 1910-1911, more specifically the night of January 5, 1911, on the campus of Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana, to sow the seed of a fraternal tree whose fruit is available to, and now enjoyed by college men everywhere, regardless of their color, religion, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, the constitution of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated is predicated upon and dedicated to the principles of achievement through a truly democratic fraternity; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was originally chartered and incorporated under the laws of the state of Indiana as Kappa Alpha Nu on May 15, 1911; and

WHEREAS, the name was changed to Kappa Alpha Psi by a resolution offered and adopted at the Grand Chapter in December 1914, which became effective April 15, 1915; and

WHEREAS, the name acquired a distinctive Greek letter symbol and Kappa Alpha Psi thereby became a Greek letter fraternity in every sense of the designation; and

WHEREAS, from its inception, every endeavor was directed toward establishing the fraternity upon a strong foundation before embarking on plans of expansion; and

WHEREAS, by the end of the first year, the then Grand Polemarch, Elder Watson Diggs, working together with original Grand Board of Director member, B. K. Armstrong,

had completed the ritual and commenced work on the coat of arms, which was completed the following summer; and

WHEREAS, in having adopted a mutually suitable motto, Grand Polemarch Diggs and Grand Board of Director members B. K. Armstrong and John M. Lee carried a sketch of the coat of arms to a commercial engraver, from which he made the first metal plate "Kappa Alpha Psi"; and

WHEREAS, for years, in order to safeguard the ritualistic secrets of the fraternity, Grand Polemarch Diggs laboriously typed and bound the rituals; and

WHEREAS, it was not until he moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he met an old German printer in whom he had confidence that he entrusted the esoteric materials of the fraternity to a commercial printer; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1912, Grand Polemarch Diggs wrote in a little blue examination book the first Kappa Alpha Psi constitution, which was adopted in 1920; and

WHEREAS, this edition of the first constitution remained in use until 1926 when it was supplanted by the codified edition jointly written by Elder Watson Diggs, J. Ernest Wilkins, and W. Ellis Stewart; and

WHEREAS, in 1957 the constitution again underwent a major revision; and

WHEREAS, now substantially established and provided with a constitution, ritual, coat of arms, motto, and guiding hand in a dynamic Grand Chapter, the fraternity was ready for expansion; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 1912, Grand Polemarch Diggs visited the University of Illinois at Urbana, Illinois, where he met Earl B. Dickerson, president of the old "Illini Club"; and

WHEREAS, this club constituted the nucleus of the University of Illinois chapter, the Beta, which was chartered on February 8, 1913; and

WHEREAS, Gamma Chapter was established on December 29, 1913, followed by the establishment of Delta Chapter at the University of Iowa on March 7, 1914; and

WHEREAS, the latter was subsequently changed to the Gamma Chapter, and the designation of Delta was assigned to the Wilberforce University Chapter at Wilberforce, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Epsilon Chapter, Lincoln University, Pennsylvania was established on December 4, 1915, as the first chapter in the East; and

WHEREAS, except for the years of World War I and World War II when several Grand Chapter meetings were suspended, Kappa Alpha Psi embarked upon an era of expansion and growth and prevailed with unabating impetus; and

WHEREAS, to date, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity is organizationally and administratively mature; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity steadily moves toward a tomorrow of promise, productivity, and influence.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize April 30, 2019, as "Kappa Day at the Kapitol".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Southwestern Providence Council of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE