

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY REPRESENTATIVE JENKINS

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes May 4, 2023, as Phi Beta Sigma Day at the state capitol

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize Thursday, May 4, 2023, as Phi Beta Sigma Day at the state capitol.

3 WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity was founded at Howard University in  
4 Washington, D.C., on January 9, 1914, by three young African American male students who  
5 wanted to organize a Greek-letter fraternity that would truly exemplify the ideals of  
6 brotherhood, scholarship, and service; and

7 WHEREAS, the founders deeply wished to create an organization that viewed itself  
8 as "a part of" the general community, as opposed to being "apart from" it, and conceived of  
9 Phi Beta Sigma as a mechanism to deliver services to the general community; the  
10 organization's deep conviction is mirrored in the fraternity motto, "Culture for service and  
11 service for humanity"; and

12 WHEREAS, the objectives of Phi Beta Sigma include reaffirming and maintaining  
13 a strong commitment to brotherhood, scholarship, and service; ensuring that the fraternity  
14 programs are focused and committed to serving humanity; and encouraging a closer and  
15 mutually beneficial working relationship with fellow Greek-letter organizations, other  
16 community service organizations, businesses, and government; and

17 WHEREAS, today, Phi Beta Sigma has blossomed into an international organization  
18 of leaders, and members of the fraternity have been instrumental in the establishment of the  
19 Phi Beta Sigma National Foundation, the Phi Beta Sigma Federal Credit Union, the Sigma  
20 Beta Club Foundation, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, the sister organization of the fraternity;  
21 and

1           WHEREAS, various Phi Beta Sigma programs are realized through the fraternity's  
2 overarching program, Sigma Wellness, a signature community initiative adopted at Conclave  
3 2007; and

4           WHEREAS, the organization's partnerships with the American Cancer Society,  
5 March of Dimes, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Boy Scouts of America, and  
6 the Thurgood Marshall College Fund all speak to its mission to address societal ills,  
7 including health disparities and educational and developmental challenges for young males;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma currently boasts a membership of over one hundred fifty  
10 thousand college and professional men in more than six hundred chapters throughout the  
11 United States and abroad, including twenty chapters located in the state of Louisiana; and

12           WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma saw fit to move its Conclave to New Orleans in 2009,  
13 previously scheduled to be held on the east coast, with the specific objective of lending  
14 support to the economic revitalization of a city ravaged by Hurricane Katrina and its  
15 aftermath; that same year, the fraternity committed \$85,000 to Habitat for Humanity to build  
16 a house in New Orleans for a family that was displaced by the storm; and

17           WHEREAS, Phi Beta Sigma is most deserving of recognition for its inspiring  
18 mission to unite and serve the community.

19           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Thursday, May 4, 2023, as Phi Beta Sigma  
21 Day at the state capitol and does hereby extend sincerest gratitude to the fraternity for its  
22 many contributions to the state of Louisiana, the United States of America, and abroad.

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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 111 Original

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