

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY SENATOR CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To commend the New Orleans Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi upon the occasion of its eightieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was founded on January 5, 1911, at Indiana University and the Kappa Alpha Psi New Orleans Alumni Chapter was chartered on May 12, 1936, at Dillard University; and

WHEREAS, early in the twentieth century, African-American students were often actively dissuaded from attending college and many campuses established substantial obstacles to prevent the few who did enroll from taking an active part in extracurricular campus life; and

WHEREAS, the exclusion experienced at Indiana University led eleven African-American undergraduates to found a fraternal organization that would afford those so often ostracized an opportunity to fully experience campus life beyond the classroom; and

WHEREAS, the vision of these young men to establish an organization to provide the entire collegiate experience has developed into a national fraternal organization that remains strong nationwide and continues to focus on its original purpose of achievement in every human endeavor more than a century after its founding; and

WHEREAS, KAΨ moved from this single chapter in 1911 to a national fraternal organization available to and enjoyed by college men and alumni throughout the country regardless of their color, religion or national origin; and

WHEREAS, KAΨ members are proud that the constitution of this organization has never contained any clause that seeks to exclude or that suggests the exclusion of young men on any discriminatory basis; and

WHEREAS, in an oak-lined area of New Orleans known as Gentilly, the New Orleans Alumni chapter of KAΨ, the first graduate chapter in Louisiana, came into being in 1936 on the campus of Dillard University; and

WHEREAS, the charter members of this KAΨ alumni chapter included two physicians, two dentists, the principal of Southern University Training School, the dean of Dillard University, a journalist and history professor, a pharmacist, a recent graduate of Dillard and a senior at Dillard; and

WHEREAS, with achievement in every human endeavor as their fraternity's goal, the New Orleans Alumni chapter of KAΨ celebrates and recognizes achievement annually, honoring brothers, including community leaders, who embody the spirit of achievement; and

WHEREAS, the KAΨ chapter in New Orleans is included in the fraternity's Southwestern Province, one of twelve nationwide, and it includes Arkansas, Southern Mississippi, New Mexico, and Texas; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi has maintained a history of community involvement and service at the local, regional and provincial levels; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity has spent the last eighty years promoting, encouraging and recognizing the achievements of its brothers in all areas of human endeavor and today moves toward a tomorrow of promise, productivity, and influence.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the New Orleans Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity on the occasion of its eightieth anniversary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the New Orleans Alumni Chapter of KAΨ, Brother John A. Brown Sr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE