

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 166

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

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes May 18, 2023, 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 seventeenth anniversary as an organization and to recognize
4 Thursday, May 18, 2023, as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Day at the state capitol.

5 WHEREAS, in 2022, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, celebrated the one
6 hundred sixteenth 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 voice and vision to the struggle of African Americans
3 and 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, acting as mentors to youth, and
13 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: Representatives Ken Brass, Adrian Fisher,
21 Patrick O. Jefferson, Travis Johnson, 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 seventeen years of scholarship, fellowship, good
29 character, and the uplifting of humanity and does hereby recognize Thursday, May 18, 2023,
30 as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Day at the state capitol.

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)]

HR 166 Original

2023 Regular Session

Brass

Commends Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., on the celebration of its upcoming 117th anniversary as an organization and recognizes May 18, 2023, as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Day at the state capitol.