

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 45

BY REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS JOHNSON

A RESOLUTION

To designate Monday, April 15, 2024, as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., to commend the upcoming occasion of the organization's one hundred-eighteenth anniversary, and to designate April 15, 2024, as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Day at the state capitol; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., was founded on December 4, 1906, by seven students at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and the organization holds the distinction as the first intercollegiate Greek letter fraternity established for African American men; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, this year, Alpha Phi Alpha members from across the state will assemble in Baton Rouge in order to celebrate the contributions to the legislature of eighteen past Alpha brothers and those currently serving: Representatives Ken Brass, Travis Johnson, and Adrian Fisher; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, for its programs and activities, which exemplify the importance of service to all mankind, and to recognize the positive impact the fraternity continues to have on Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Monday, April 15, 2024, as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Day at the state capitol and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that the organization and its members continue to prosper in all of their endeavors.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES