

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 130

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Wednesday, April 25, 2018, as Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, is celebrating eighty-two years of achievement in the Southwestern Province; and

WHEREAS, the Southwestern Province has fashioned four Grand Polemarchs: Richard B. Millspaugh, the seventeenth Grand Polemarch; Elbert E. Allen, the twenty-first Grand Polemarch; Dwayne M. Murray, the thirty-first Grand Polemarch; and William "Randy" Bates, Jr., the thirty-second Grand Polemarch; and

WHEREAS, the men of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, are bound by the creed that states "achievement" is what they do, "commitment" is what they practice, and "fidelity" is how they live; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, is comprised of undergraduate and alumni chapters on major campuses and in cities throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the fraternity was established on January 5, 1911, on the campus of Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana, and its establishment effectively planted the seed of a fraternal tree whose fruit is now available to college men everywhere, regardless of color, religion, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, the constitution of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, is dedicated to the principles of achievement and democratic governance; and

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was originally chartered and incorporated as Kappa Alpha Nu on May 15, 1911, and the name was changed to Kappa Alpha Psi by a resolution offered and adopted at the Grand Chapter Meeting in December 1914, which became effective April 15, 1915; and

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

WHEREAS, by the end of the first year Grand Polemarch Elder Watson Diggs, working with original Grand Board of Directors member, B.K. Armstrong, commenced work on the coat of arms, which was completed the following summer; and

WHEREAS, having adopted a suitable motto, fraternity members carried a sketch of the coat of arms to a commercial engraver, from which the first metal plate was made; and

WHEREAS, for years, in order to safeguard the secrets of the fraternity, Grand Polemarch Diggs laboriously typed and bound the rituals of the fraternity; 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, which was used until 1957, when it again underwent a major revision; and

WHEREAS, once the fraternity had a constitution, ritual, coat of arms, motto, and position of influence in a dynamic Grand Chapter, it was ready for further expansion; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 1912, Grand Polemarch Diggs visited the University of Illinois at Urbana, where he met Earl B. Dickerson, president of the Old "Illini Club", which constituted the nucleus of the University of Illinois chapter, the Beta, which was chartered on February 8, 1913; and

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

WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, is now organizationally and administratively mature, and the fraternity steadily moves towards a tomorrow of promise, productivity, and influence.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Wednesday, April 25, 2018, as Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, Day at the state capitol.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES