

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

HR 1021

4  
5 By: Representative Williams  
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8 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

9 RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING OMEGA PSI PHI  
10 FRATERNITY, INC.

11  
12 **Subtitle**

13 RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING OMEGA PSI PHI  
14 FRATERNITY, INC.  
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18 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was the first national African-  
19 American fraternity to be founded at a historically black college when it was  
20 established on November 17, 1911, at Howard University; and  
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22 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi was created in the office of Professor Ernest E.  
23 Just by three (3) Howard University students, Edgar A. Love, Oscar J.  
24 Cooper, and Frank Coleman; and  
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26 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi was formed from the initials of the Greek phrase  
27 meaning, "Friendship is essential to the soul", and that phrase was adopted  
28 as the fraternity's motto; and  
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30 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi since its inception has aimed to build a strong,  
31 effective, and dedicated force of African-American men who are committed to  
32 the Cardinal Principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift;  
33 and  
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35 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi requires each of its members to exhibit the  
36 qualities of the Cardinal Principles: manhood – being appropriate in



1 character and marked by moral excellence, courage, bravery, and resolve;  
2 scholarship – demonstrating an attitude toward education by learning and  
3 being informed by achieving or exceeding and maintaining the minimum  
4 educational requirements of the fraternity; perseverance – exhibiting a  
5 “spirit” of brotherhood, togetherness, humility, cooperation, and a  
6 willingness to go an extra mile for the goal sought as a responsible first-  
7 class citizen; uplift – sharing one’s gifts with the community in the form of  
8 verifiable aid, activism, and leadership; and

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10 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi has established itself as an unique group of men  
11 that encourages a standard of excellence and community service and assists in  
12 the building of character and leadership development among men; and

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14 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi currently has over seven hundred (700) chapters  
15 throughout the United States, the Bahamas, Bermuda, the Virgin Islands,  
16 Korea, Japan, Liberia, Germany, and Kuwait; and

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18 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi has seventeen (17) graduate and undergraduate  
19 chapters throughout the State of Arkansas; and

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21 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi actively participates in and contributes to  
22 charitable organizations including Habitat for Humanity, the American  
23 Diabetes Association, the United Way, and the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation;  
24 and

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26 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi gives at least fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)  
27 annually to the United Negro College Fund in furtherance of Omega Psi Phi’s  
28 commitment to provide philanthropic support and to invest in the education of  
29 future African-American leaders; and

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31 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi’s membership legacy includes Dr. Carter G.  
32 Woodson, Wiley Branton, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Veron E. Jordan Jr., Robert C.  
33 Weaver, Dr. Charles Drew, Bill Cosby, Langston Hughes, Sterling Brown, Keith  
34 Jackson, Corliss Williamson, Shaquille O’Neal, and Michael Jordan; and

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36 WHEREAS, on November 17, 2009, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will celebrate

1 its ninety-eighth year of social action and service to the African-American  
2 community,

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4 NOW THEREFORE,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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8 THAT the House of Representatives acknowledges and commends the members  
9 of Omega Psi Phi for outstanding service and leadership throughout the state  
10 of Arkansas and around the world.

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