

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017

SR 8

4  
5 By: Senator L. Chesterfield

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY,  
9 INC.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND OMEGA PSI PHI  
14 FRATERNITY, INC.

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17 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was the first national  
18 African-American fraternity to be founded at an historically black college  
19 when it was established on November 17, 1911, at Howard University; and

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21 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi was created in the office of Professor Ernest E.  
22 Just by 3 Howard University students, Edgar A. Love, Oscar J. Cooper, and  
23 Frank Coleman; and

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25 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi was formed from the initials of the Greek phrase  
26 meaning, "friendship is essential to the soul", and that phrase was adopted  
27 as the fraternity's motto; and

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29 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi since its inception has aimed to build a strong,  
30 effective, and dedicated force of African-American men who are committed to  
31 the cardinal principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift;  
32 and

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34 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi requires each of its members to exhibit the  
35 qualities of the cardinal principles: manhood, which is being appropriate in  
36 character and marked by moral excellence, courage, bravery, and resolve;



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

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

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

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17 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi has 20 graduate and undergraduate chapters  
18 throughout the State of Arkansas; and

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

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

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

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35 WHEREAS, on November 17, 2017, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will celebrate  
36 its one hundred sixth year of social action and service to the African-

1 American community,

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3 NOW THEREFORE,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE

5 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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7 THAT the Senate acknowledges and commends the members of Omega Psi Phi  
8 Fraternity for outstanding service and leadership throughout the State of  
9 Arkansas and around the world.

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate  
12 copy shall be provided to the national headquarters of Omega Psi Phi  
13 Fraternity, Inc., by the Secretary of the Senate.

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