

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023

HR 1013

4
5 By: Representative J. Richardson

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO COMMEND ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC. FOR ONE
9 HUNDRED SIXTEEN (116) YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO COMMEND ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY,
14 INC. FOR ONE HUNDRED SIXTEEN (116) YEARS
15 OF COMMUNITY SERVICE.

16
17 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity is the first and oldest
18 intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African-Americans;
19 and

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21 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was founded on December 4, 1906, on
22 the campus of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, by students who
23 recognized the need for a strong bond of brotherhood among African
24 descendants in this country; and

25
26 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was founded by visionaries, known
27 as the "Jewels" of the fraternity, including Henry Arthur Callis, Charles
28 Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison
29 Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy; and

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31 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity initially served as a study and
32 support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice, both
33 educationally and socially; and

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35 WHEREAS, the Jewel founders and early leaders of the fraternity
36 succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of



1 scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity; and

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3 WHEREAS, chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity have served communities
4 and campuses throughout Arkansas since 1926; and

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6 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity continues to proliferate, spanning
7 the globe with close to eight hundred (800) chapters and two hundred thousand
8 (200,000) members located throughout the United States, Canada, various
9 Caribbean islands, Africa, West Indies, Europe, and Asia; and

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11 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity continues to stress academic
12 excellence among its members and recognizes the educational, economic,
13 political, and social challenges faced by African-Americans nationally and
14 internationally; and

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16 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity participates in Project Alpha, Go
17 To-High-School, Go-To-College, Boy Scouts of America, and A Voteless People
18 Is A Hopeless People programs in response to those challenges; and

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20 WHEREAS, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity motto is “First of All,
21 Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All”; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity nationally includes
24 the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., W.E.B. DuBois, Paul Robeson, Dick
25 Gregory, Thurgood Marshall, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., T. E. Patterson, Duke
26 Ellington, Jesse Owens, and Marc Morial; and

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28 WHEREAS, Members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity include many historical
29 civil rights leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr., National Association
30 for the Advancement of Colored People founder W. E. B. Du Bois, civic leader
31 John Mack, Rev. Joseph E. Lowery, Rev. C.T. Vivian, and Dick Gregory; and

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33 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was directly responsible for the
34 conception, funding and construction of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
35 next to the National Mall in Washington, D.C.; and

1 WHEREAS, the legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the statewide
2 network of Arkansas Alphas include among its membership the former
3 President of AT&T Arkansas, Ronnie Dedman; the Chancellor of the University
4 of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Laurence B. Alexander, PhD; Dr. John Colbert, the
5 Superintendent of the Fayetteville School District, the Mayor of Forrest
6 City, Cedric Williams; the Mayor of Little Rock, Frank D. Scott Jr.; Senator
7 Reginald Murdock; Representative Jay Richardson; former Representative John
8 W. Walker; former Representative Monte Hodges; former Representative Tracy
9 Steele; former Senator Jack Crumbly; former Representative Earnest Brown;
10 former Representative Tommy Baker; former Senator Bill Lewellen; former
11 Representative Jimmie Wilson; former Representative Booker T. Clemmons;
12 former Representative John Lewellen; former Representative William H.
13 Townsend; and former Senator Jerry Jewell; and
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15 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, under the leadership of its
16 General President, Dr. Willis L. Lonzer, is focused on the addressing the
17 fraternity's past, current, and future role in shaping policy that impacts
18 its communities,
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20 NOW THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
22 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 THAT the House of Representatives acknowledge the members of Alpha Phi
25 Alpha Fraternity for providing over one hundred sixteen (116) years of
26 outstanding service and leadership to their communities.
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that upon adoption, a copy of this resolution
29 shall be provided to Jeramaine O. Netherly, Southwestern Region Vice
30 President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Terence T. Cox, Arkansas
31 District Director, by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.
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