

By: Representative Perkins

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 107

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING ALPHA PHI ALPHA
2 FRATERNITY, INC., ON THE OCCASION OF ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY
3 CELEBRATION.

4 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., was founded on
5 December 4, 1906, and is the first and oldest intercollegiate
6 Greek-letter foundation established for African Americans; and

7 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha was founded at Cornell University by
8 seven college men who recognized the need for a strong bond of
9 brotherhood among African-American descendants in this country;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, founded by visionaries, known as the "Jewels" of the
12 Fraternity: Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene
13 Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray,
14 Robert Harold Ogle and Vertner Woodson Tandy; and

15 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha initially served as a study and
16 support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice,
17 both educationally and socially, that originally met at 421 North
18 Albany Street, Ithaca, New York, and was incorporated January 29,
19 1908; and

20 WHEREAS, the Jewel founders and early leaders of the
21 fraternity succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi
22 Alpha's principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character and
23 the uplifting of humanity; and

24 WHEREAS, after developing chapters at other colleges and
25 universities, many being historically black institutions, Alpha
26 Phi Alpha continues to proliferate, spanning the globe with some
27 800 chapters, more than 160,000 members worldwide located

28 throughout the United States, the Caribbean Islands, Africa, the
29 West Indies, Europe and Asia; and

30 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha prides itself in stressing academic
31 excellence among its members and recognizes the educational,
32 economic and social challenges faced by African Americans, both
33 nationally and internationally; and

34 WHEREAS, in response to these challenges Alpha Phi Alpha
35 mandates programs such as *Project Alpha*, *Go To High School*, *Go To*
36 *College* and *A Voteless People is a Hopeless People*; and

37 WHEREAS, the legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha includes: Rev. Dr.
38 Martin Luther King, Jr., W.E.B. DuBois, Fredrick Douglass, Paul
39 Robeson, Dick Gregory, John Hope Franklin, Thurgood Marshall, Adam
40 Clayton Powell, Jr., United States Vice President Hubert Humphrey,
41 Duke Ellington, Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, Dennis Archer,
42 Richard Arrington, Jr., Marion Barry, Edward Brooke, Willie Brown,
43 Danny K. Davis, William H. Gray, William H. Gray, III, Maynard
44 Jackson, Bill Jefferson, Charles B. Rangel, Robert C. Scott,
45 Emanuel Cleaver, Ron Dellums, David Dinkins, Julian C. Dixon,
46 Chaka Fattah, Harold Ford, Sr., Kwame Kilpatrick, Ralph Metcalfe,
47 Ernest Morial, Andrew Young, Whitney Young, Jerry Butler, Donny
48 Hathaway, Lionel Richie, Countee Cullen, Charles Haley, Lionel
49 Hampton, Keenan Wayans, Cornel West, Rosey Grier, Eddie Robinson,
50 Art Shell, Wayne Embry, Wes Unseld, Gene Upshaw, Lenny Wilkens and
51 John H. Johnson and scores more; and

52 WHEREAS, since its founding on December 4, 1906, Alpha Phi
53 Alpha has supplied the voice and vision to the struggle of African
54 Americans and people of color around the world; and

55 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha is celebrating its centennial
56 anniversary in Washington, D.C., July 25 - July 30, 2006, which
57 commemorates and celebrates the fraternity's tremendous legacy of
58 manly deeds, scholarship and love for all mankind; and

59 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
60 and commend the works, efforts and contributions of such an
61 historical organization as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.:

62 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
63 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
64 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Alpha Phi
65 Alpha Fraternity, Inc., salute its legacy on the occasion of its
66 Centennial Anniversary Celebration and express our heartiest
67 wishes for continued growth, prosperity and success in all its
68 future endeavors.

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
70 furnished to the Mississippi district office, the southern region
71 office, the National Headquarters of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity,
72 Inc., and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.