

By: Representatives Paden, McGee, Watson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 113

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MU XI CHAPTER
2 OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC., ON THE OCCASION OF THE 45TH
3 ANNIVERSARY OF RECEIVING ITS CHARTER.

4 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha (AΦA) is the first intercollegiate
5 fraternity established by African-American men and was founded on
6 December 4, 1906, on the campus of Cornell University in Ithaca,
7 New York, and since 1945, it has been open to men of all races and
8 initiated over 175,000 men into its organization; and

9 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha evolved into primarily a service
10 organization and has provided leadership and service during the
11 Great Depression, both World Wars and the Civil Rights Movement,
12 and the fraternity addresses social issues such as apartheid,
13 AIDS, urban housing, and other economic, cultural and political
14 issues affecting people of color; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1975, Alpha Phi Alpha along with brothers Mance
16 Langham and Charles Johnson chartered the Mu Gamma Lambda Alumni
17 Chapter in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and Mance Langham and Charles



18 Johnson along with brothers Alphonso Clark and Howard Jones
19 decided the brothers of Mu Gamma Lambda Alumni Chapter would apply
20 for a metropolitan chapter slated for Hattiesburg; and

21 WHEREAS, 45 years ago, in 1976, an organization named the 7
22 Jewels Study Club was established on the University of Southern
23 Mississippi (USM) campus, and it was a group of African-American
24 students whose purpose was to promote scholarship and the spirit
25 of Alpha Phi Alpha; and

26 WHEREAS, that same year, the National Office granted Mu Xi a
27 metropolitan chapter, encompassing students from USM, William
28 Carey College and surrounding junior colleges, who were at least
29 sophomores and had a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average, and on
30 November 6, 1976, the Mu Xi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity
31 initiated 16 charter members; and

32 WHEREAS, all 16 members were known as "The Untouchable 16"
33 and consisted of the following undergraduate students at the
34 University of Southern Mississippi: Brian Acker of Bay St. Louis,
35 Mississippi, Jerrle Barksdale of Biloxi, Jimmy R. Bridges of
36 Silver Creek, Larry D. Carey of Jackson, Lavern Dillion of
37 Hattiesburg, Reverend Kenneth Fairley of Hattiesburg, Michael
38 Gilner of Gulfport (deceased), Charles Goldsmith of Moss Point,
39 Wille B. Hinton of Carson, Robert L. Jackson of Marks, Reverend
40 Robert K. Minor of Hattiesburg, Willie Neely of Ellisville, Daniel
41 Simmons of Picayune (deceased), David Simmons of Picayune, Norman



42 Smith of Bay St. Louis and Charles R. Thompkins of Hattiesburg;
43 and

44 WHEREAS, since their Mu Xi Charter in 1976, there have been
45 over 325 men initiated into Mu Xi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, and
46 through their careers, each man has made numerous contributions to
47 the world in very diverse and impactful ways, including as Ph.D.s,
48 NFL players, judges, mayors, Fortune 500 executives,
49 entrepreneurs, theologians, teachers, school superintendents, IT
50 professionals, coaches, healthcare professionals, politicians,
51 safety professionals and engineers; and

52 WHEREAS, each brother, past and present, of the Mu Xi Chapter
53 has truly embodied the Alpha Phi Alpha motto, "First of All,
54 Servants of All, We shall Transcend All"; and

55 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
56 recognize and commend the works, efforts and contributions of such
57 an historical organization as the Mu Xi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha
58 Fraternity, Inc.:

59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
60 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
61 commend and congratulate the Mu Xi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha
62 Fraternity, Inc., on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of
63 receiving its charter and express heartiest wishes for continued
64 growth, prosperity and success in all of its future endeavors.



65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
66 furnished to the Mu Xi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity,
67 Inc., and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

