

By: Senator(s) Simmons (12th), Berry,
Blount, Frazier, Norwood

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 24

1 A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.,
2 ON THE OCCASION OF ITS POLICY IMPACT "2024 AKA DAY AT THE
3 MISSISSIPPI STATE CAPITOL" TO PROMOTE ADVOCACY AND TAKE ACTION FOR
4 HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE.

5 WHEREAS, on February 6, 2024, members of Alpha Kappa Alpha
6 Sorority, Inc., answered the call to convene in Jackson,
7 Mississippi, to attend the "2024 Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the
8 Mississippi State Capitol" to network, receive a legislative
9 update, promote advocacy and take action as part of their
10 commitment to health care, human rights, social justice, political
11 awareness, the census count and overall commitment to statewide
12 civic engagement; and

13 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, is the
14 oldest Greek letter organization in the United States founded by
15 college-educated African American women on January 15, 1908, on
16 the campus of Howard University. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority,
17 Inc., is currently led by International President Danette Anthony
18 Reed; and



19 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha is comprised of ten regions around
20 the globe. The States of Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama make
21 up the South Eastern Region. Presently, the South Eastern Region
22 comprises 116 chapters, 48 undergraduate chapters and 68 graduate
23 chapters. With over 14,000 Sorors, the region is dedicated to the
24 mission of this illustrious organization. The South Eastern
25 Region is led by Dr. Tracey Morant Adams; and

26 WHEREAS, the South Eastern Region has a legacy of providing
27 exemplary service to all mankind. Through the collective efforts
28 of its members, the South Eastern Region implements programs of
29 service that transform, magnify, and accelerate communities and
30 campuses. The sorority's social advocacy agenda focuses on issues
31 that will save lives and transform communities. These efforts in
32 Mississippi are led by Mississippi Connection and Social Action
33 Coordinator Attorney Demetrice Williams Wells and the South
34 Eastern Representative to the International Connection and Social
35 Action Committee Leah Wiggins; and

36 WHEREAS, the members of Alpha Kappa Alpha who reside in the
37 State of Mississippi have significantly contributed to local,
38 state and national programs that have made a positive impact on
39 the State of Mississippi. Their dedication, hard work and
40 commitment to providing service to the citizens of Mississippi are
41 evident by the countless hours of community service, millions of
42 dollars in financial contributions, and vocal social advocacy that



43 have been displayed since the chartering of the first chapter in
44 Mississippi in 1934; and

45 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, has a
46 116-year tradition of social action. Under the sorority's current
47 theme, "Soaring to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood," the
48 International Connection and Social Action Committee is poised to
49 implement the "Advocate for Social Justice" initiative in an
50 effort to save lives and transform communities as advocates to
51 reduce suicide among our black youth and reduce the preventable
52 deaths of Black mothers during pregnancy and child birth. Alpha
53 Kappa Alpha's robust advocacy agenda was initiated during the 2022
54 mid-term elections and included the launch of the "Soar to the
55 Polls" voter engagement campaign, U.S. elections impact policy and
56 funding decisions regarding health care, education, environment,
57 voting rights, housing, public safety, and economics, among other
58 issues; while all votes matter in these decisions, voter
59 suppression is at an all-time high; the "Soar to the Polls"
60 campaign was developed to address voting barriers via a
61 three-pronged approach: Voter Education, Voter Registration, and
62 Voter Engagement; and

63 WHEREAS, these efforts in Mississippi are led by the South
64 Eastern Representative, Tracey Morant Adams, to the International
65 Connection and Social Action Committee Leah J. Holder Wiggins,
66 Mississippi Connection and Social Action Coordinator Attorney,



67 Demetrice Williams Wells and the Mississippi Connection and Social
68 Action Committee; and

69 WHEREAS, with 36 graduate and undergraduate chapters in the
70 State of Mississippi, Alpha Kappa Alpha members continue to
71 Empower Our Families, Build Our Economic Wealth, Enhance Our
72 Environment, Advocate for Social Justice, and Uplift Our Local
73 Community as they strengthen the bonds to support their service
74 mission; and

75 WHEREAS, we acknowledge the contributions of Alpha Kappa
76 Alpha Sorority, Inc., whose members devote their talents, time and
77 energy in excess of 2.5 million hours of community service
78 advancing effective initiatives fostering a better and equal
79 quality of life for all individuals, especially the individuals of
80 the great State of Mississippi:

81 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
82 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commemorate Alpha Kappa Alpha
83 Sorority, Inc., on the observance of the "2024 Alpha Kappa Alpha
84 Sorority Day at the Mississippi State Capitol" for its outstanding
85 service to the community under the program initiative, "Soaring to
86 Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood" by utilizing the power
87 of the "Soar to the Polls" voter engagement campaign to engage,
88 enlighten and energize.

89 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
90 Committee Representatives of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.,



91 Mississippi Chapters, and made available to the members of the
92 Capitol Press Corps.

