

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019

HR 1033

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5 By: Representatives Murdock, M. Hodges, Richardson, Walker

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

8

TO COMMEND ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC. FOR OVER
9 100 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE.

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Subtitle

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TO COMMEND ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY,
14 INC. FOR OVER 100 YEARS OF COMMUNITY
15 SERVICE.

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

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WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was founded on December 4, 1906, on
23 the campus of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, by 7 students who
24 recognized the need for a strong bond of brotherhood among African
25 descendants in this country; and

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

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

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WHEREAS, the Jewel founders and early leaders of the fraternity



1 succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of
2 scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity; and

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

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

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

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

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

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26 WHEREAS, the legacy of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the statewide
27 network of Arkansas Alphas include among its membership the President of
28 AT&T Arkansas, Ronnie Dedman; the President of Philander Smith College,
29 Roderick L. Smothers Sr., PhD; the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas
30 at Pine Bluff, Laurence B. Alexander, PhD; the Superintendent of the
31 Fayetteville School District, John L. Colbert, EdD; the Superintendent of the
32 Pine Bluff School District, Jeremy Owoh, PhD; the Mayor of Forrest City,
33 Cedric Williams; the Mayor of Little Rock, Frank D. Scott Jr.; Representative
34 Reginald Murdock; Representative Jay Richardson; Representative John W.
35 Walker; Representative Monte Hodges; former Representative Tracy Steele;
36 former Senator Jack Crumbly; former Representative Earnest Brown; former

1 Representative Tommy Baker; former Senator Bill Lewellen; former
2 Representative Jimmie Wilson; former Representative Booker T. Clemmons;
3 former Representative John Lewellen; former Representative William H.
4 Townsend; and former Senator Jerry Jewell; and
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6 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, under the leadership of its 35th
7 General President, Everett B. Ward, PhD, is focused on the “Urgency of Now”,
8 which addresses the fraternity’s past, current, and future role in shaping
9 policy that impacts its communities,
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11 NOW THEREFORE,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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15 THAT the House of Representatives acknowledge the members of Alpha Phi
16 Alpha and the fraternity for providing over 100 years of outstanding service
17 and leadership to their communities.
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that upon adoption, a copy of this resolution
20 shall be provided to Tarryance Robinson, Southwestern Region Vice President
21 of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Jeremy Owoh, PhD, Arkansas District
22 Director, by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.
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