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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to  
3 recognize and honor the upcoming 102nd anniversary of the  
4 founding of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, the  
5 first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for  
6 African-Americans; and

7           WHEREAS, The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was founded on  
8 December 4, 1906, by seven young men, respectfully known as the  
9 Seven Jewels, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York; and

10           WHEREAS, Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman,  
11 Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison  
12 Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy, the  
13 founders of the Fraternity, recognized the need for a strong  
14 bond of brotherhood among African descendants in this country;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, The aims of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity are  
17 manly deeds, scholarship, and love for all mankind; and

18           WHEREAS, For nearly 102 years, the Alpha Phi Alpha  
19 Fraternity has played a fundamental role in the positive  
20 development of the character and education of more than 175,000  
21 men; and

1           WHEREAS, The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha have shared  
2           countless friendships and a common belief in the founding  
3           ideals of the fraternity; and

4           WHEREAS, Alumni from Alpha Phi Alpha include many  
5           noteworthy leaders in the areas of government, business,  
6           entertainment, science, and higher education; and

7           WHEREAS, The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity has 350 college  
8           campus chapters and 350 alumni chapters in the United States of  
9           America, the District of Columbia, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean,  
10          and Europe; the Theta Chapter (1910) and the Xi Lambda Chapter  
11          (1924), both of Chicago, were the first college and alumni  
12          chapters, respectively, in the State of Illinois; and

13          WHEREAS, The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity continues to enrich  
14          the lives of its members, who, in turn, carry out in their  
15          communities a commitment to service and the uplifting of  
16          humanity; therefore, be it

17          RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
18          ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize and honor  
19          the upcoming 102nd anniversary of the founding of the Alpha Phi  
20          Alpha Fraternity; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we commend all Alpha Phi Alpha brothers,  
2 past and present, for their bond of friendship, common ideals  
3 and beliefs, and service to community; and be it further

4           RESOLVED, That we express our best wishes for the Alpha Phi  
5 Alpha Fraternity's continued success and growth; and be it  
6 further

7           RESOLVED, That December 4, 2008 is officially proclaimed as  
8 Alpha Phi Alpha Day in the Great State of Illinois; and be it  
9 further

10          RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be  
11 delivered to the Illinois District Director of Alpha Phi Alpha  
12 Fraternity, Incorporated, the Assistant Illinois District  
13 Director of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, and the  
14 Presidents of the 30 College and Alumni Chapters of Alpha Phi  
15 Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated of the Great District of  
16 Illinois.