
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 582 Session of
2002

INTRODUCED BY WASHINGTON, BISHOP, ALLEN, BEBKO-JONES, MYERS,
BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CIVERA, L. I. COHEN, COSTA, COY, CRUZ,
DALEY, DALLY, DeWEESE, D. EVANS, J. EVANS, FORCIER, GRUCELA,
HARHART, HERMAN, HERSHEY, HORSEY, JAMES, KAISER, KENNEY,
KIRKLAND, LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, LESCOVITZ, LEWIS, MAHER,
MANDERINO, McCALL, McILHATTAN, McNAUGHTON, PALLONE, PISTELLA,
READSHAW, ROBINSON, ROEBUCK, RUBLEY, SANTONI, SATHER, SAYLOR,
SHANER, B. SMITH, STABACK, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TRELLO,
TURZAI, WATERS, WATSON, J. WILLIAMS, WOJNAROSKI AND
YOUNGBLOOD, MAY 7, 2002

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 7, 2002

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority by designating May 7, 2002,
2 as "Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Day" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 1908, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority became America's
4 first Greek-letter organization established by black college
5 women; and

6 WHEREAS, The sorority's roots date back to Howard University,
7 Washington, D.C., where the idea for formation was conceived by
8 Ethel Hedgeman Lyle of St. Louis, Missouri, who viewed the
9 sorority as an instrument for enriching the social and
10 intellectual aspects of college life by providing mental
11 stimulation through interaction with friends and associates; and

12 WHEREAS, Through the years, the sorority's function has
13 become more complex, branching out and becoming the channel

1 through which selected college-trained women improved the
2 socioeconomic conditions in their city, state, nation and the
3 world; and

4 WHEREAS, In a world in which materialism is pervasive and
5 technology and competition have decreased the need for
6 collaboration and cooperation, it is critical to have an
7 association that cuts across racial, international, physical and
8 social barriers to help individuals and communities develop and
9 maintain constructive relationships with others; and

10 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is that vital
11 organization, a sisterhood composed of women who have
12 consciously chosen this affiliation as a means of self-
13 fulfillment through volunteer service, cultivating and
14 encouraging high scholastic and ethical standards, promoting
15 unity and friendship among college women, alleviating problems
16 concerning girls and women, maintaining a progressive interest
17 in college life and serving all mankind through a nucleus of
18 more than 150,000 women in the United States, the Caribbean,
19 Europe and Africa; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the Alpha
21 Kappa Alpha Sorority by designating May 7, 2002, as "Alpha Kappa
22 Alpha Sorority Day" in Pennsylvania.