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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 289 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY V. BROWN, COHEN, P. DALEY, MILLARD, READSHAW,  
BISHOP, HENNESSEY, HELM, BROWNLIE, KINSEY, CALTAGIRONE,  
MAHONEY, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, HESS, KIRKLAND, KULA AND KORTZ,  
MAY 6, 2013

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
MAY 6, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority by designating May 14, 2013,  
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 African-American  
5 college women; and

6 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority celebrated its 105-year  
7 anniversary on January 15, 2013; and

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

14 WHEREAS, Through the years, the sorority's function has  
15 become more complex, branching out and becoming the channel  
16 through which selected college-trained women improved the

1 socioeconomic conditions in their city, state, nation and the  
2 world; and

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

9 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's commitment to the  
10 community accurately reflects its international theme of "Global  
11 Leadership Through Timeless Service"; and

12 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is that vital  
13 organization, a sisterhood composed of women who have  
14 consciously chosen this affiliation as a means of self-  
15 fulfillment through volunteer service, cultivating and  
16 encouraging high scholastic and ethical standards, promoting  
17 unity and friendship among college women, alleviating problems  
18 concerning girls and women, maintaining a progressive interest  
19 in college life and serving all mankind through a nucleus of  
20 more than 260,000 women in the United States, the Caribbean,  
21 Europe and Africa; and

22 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the home of eight graduate chapters  
23 which are Alpha Alpha Omega, Epsilon Sigma Omega, Iota Tau  
24 Omega, Mu Nu Omega, Omega Omega, Phi Beta Omega, Rho Theta Omega  
25 and Tau Delta Omega, as well as 16 undergraduate chapters: Alpha  
26 Sigma, Delta Gamma, Delta Iota, Delta Mu, Epsilon Nu, Gamma  
27 Epsilon, Iota, Kappa Beta, Kappa Zeta, Mu Omicron, Pi Pi, Rho  
28 Rho, Sigma Lambda, Tau Alpha, Tau X and Theta Iota; and

29 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority recognizes the importance  
30 of engaging its members in public policy initiatives which is

1 part of its "Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the Capitol" held in many  
2 states; therefore be it

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the Alpha  
4 Kappa Alpha Sorority by designating May 14, 2013, as "Alpha  
5 Kappa Alpha Sorority Day" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

6       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
7 Epsilon Sigma Omega Chapter, P.O. Box 1924, Harrisburg, PA  
8 17105-1924, in recognition of all of the chapters within  
9 Pennsylvania.