

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 15

Rep. Edwards offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare January 15, 2023, as Alpha Kappa Alpha  
2 Sorority, Incorporated, Founders' Day in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated was founded  
4 on the campus of Howard University on January 15, 1908, by nine  
5 junior and senior students, under the leadership of Ethel Hedgeman  
6 Lyle and Lavinia Norman, Margaret Flagg, Lucy Slowe, Marie  
7 Woolfolk, Beulah Burke, Lillie Burke, Anna Easter Brown, and  
8 Marjorie Hill, who, collectively, sought to form an association of  
9 women students through which their talents and strengths would be  
10 organized for the mutual benefit of all. This group later expanded  
11 to include seven sophomores (Joanna Berry, Norma Boyd, Ethel Jones,  
12 Sara Merriweather, Alice Murray, Carrie Snowden, and Harriet Terry)  
13 who were asked to join to ensure the continuity of the sorority;

1 and

2           Whereas, This year marks the 115th anniversary of its  
3 founding, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, has its place  
4 in history as the world's first and oldest Greek-letter  
5 organization established by African-American college-educated  
6 women; and

7           Whereas, Throughout its history, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority,  
8 Incorporated, has led conversations, advocacy, and actions to  
9 address needs in African-American communities related to education  
10 inequities, disparate health care, civil rights, economic  
11 empowerment, job training, and numerous social justice issues; and

12           Whereas, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, has over  
13 325,000 members and more than 1,000 chapters located throughout the  
14 United States, West Africa, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Japan,  
15 Korea, and Germany. Over 30 of these chapters are in communities  
16 and on college and university campuses in the great state of  
17 Michigan; and

18           Whereas, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, members in  
19 the state have made numerous contributions to the educational,  
20 civic, and well-being of Michigan's citizens and communities  
21 through its work on issues including economic development,  
22 community development, at-risk youth, homelessness, domestic  
23 violence, breast cancer awareness, education, personal money  
24 management, and entrepreneurship; and

25           Whereas, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, members in  
26 the state can count among their achievement's successful  
27 collaborations with organizations such as the Salvation Army, Boys  
28 and Girls Clubs, rescue missions, American Cancer Society, Susan G.  
29 Komen Foundation, Meals on Wheels, numerous food banks, and

1 shelters; now, therefore, be it

2 Resolved, That the members of this legislative body declare  
3 January 15, 2023, as Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated,  
4 Founders' Day in the state of Michigan; and be it further;

5 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the  
6 national headquarters for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated,  
7 and its Great Lakes Regional Director's office.