

1 WHEREAS, the constitution of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated is
2 predicated upon and dedicated to the principles of achievement through a truly democratic
3 fraternity; and

4 WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity was originally chartered and incorporated
5 under the laws of the state of Indiana as Kappa Alpha Nu on May 15, 1911; and

6 WHEREAS, the name was changed to Kappa Alpha Psi by a resolution offered and
7 adopted at the Grand Chapter in December 1914 which became effective April 15, 1915; and

8 WHEREAS, the name acquired a distinctive Greek letter symbol and Kappa Alpha
9 Psi thereby became a Greek letter fraternity in every sense of the designation; and

10 WHEREAS, from its inception, every endeavor was directed toward establishing the
11 fraternity upon a strong foundation before embarking on plans of expansion; and

12 WHEREAS, by the end of the first year the then Grand Polemarch, Elder Watson
13 Diggs, working together with original Grand Board of Director member, B. K. Armstrong,
14 had completed the ritual and commenced work on the coat of arms, which was completed
15 the following summer; and

16 WHEREAS, in having adopted a mutually suitable motto, Grand Polemarch Diggs
17 and Grand Board of Director members B. K. Armstrong and John M. Lee carried a sketch
18 of the coat of arms to a commercial engraver, from which he made the first metal plate
19 "Kappa Alpha Psi"; and

20 WHEREAS, for years, in order to safeguard the ritualistic secrets of the fraternity,
21 Grand Polemarch Diggs laboriously typed and bound the rituals; and

22 WHEREAS, it was not until he moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he met an old
23 German printer in whom he had confidence that he entrusted the esoteric materials of the
24 fraternity to a commercial printer; and

25 WHEREAS, in the spring of 1912 Grand Polemarch Diggs wrote in a little blue
26 examination book the first Kappa Alpha Psi constitution, which was adopted in 1920; and

27 WHEREAS, this edition of the first constitution remained in use until 1926 when it
28 was supplanted by the codified edition jointly written by Elder Watson Diggs, J. Ernest
29 Wilkins, and W. Ellis Stewart; and

30 WHEREAS, in 1957 the constitution again underwent a major revision; and

1 WHEREAS, now substantially established and provided with a constitution, ritual,
2 coat of arms, motto, and guiding hand in a dynamic Grand Chapter, the fraternity was ready
3 for expansion; and

4 WHEREAS, in the summer of 1912 Grand Polemarch Diggs visited the University
5 of Illinois at Urbana, Illinois, where he met Earl B. Dickerson, president of the old "Illini
6 Club"; and

7 WHEREAS, this club constituted the nucleus of the University of Illinois chapter,
8 the Beta, which was chartered on February 8, 1913; and

9 WHEREAS, Gamma Chapter was established on December 29, 1913, followed by
10 the establishment of Delta Chapter at the University of Iowa on March 7, 1914; and

11 WHEREAS, the latter was subsequently changed to the Gamma Chapter, and the
12 designation of Delta was assigned to the Wilberforce University Chapter at Wilberforce,
13 Ohio; and

14 WHEREAS, Epsilon Chapter, Lincoln University, Pennsylvania was established on
15 December 4, 1915 as the first chapter in the East; and

16 WHEREAS, except for the years of World War I and World War II when several
17 Grand Chapter meetings were suspended, Kappa Alpha Psi embarked upon an era of
18 expansion and growth and prevailed with unabating impetus; and

19 WHEREAS, to date, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity is organizationally and
20 administratively mature; and

21 WHEREAS, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity steadily moves towards a tomorrow of
22 promise, productivity, and influence.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
24 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize March 31, 2016, as Kappa Alpha Psi
25 Fraternity, Incorporated Day.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
27 to the Southwestern Province Council of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 40 Original

2016 Regular Session

James

Recognizes Thursday, March 31, 2016, as Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated Day at the state capitol.