

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]

HOUSE BILL NO. 567

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1537H.01T

2015

AN ACT

To amend chapter 9, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the designation of Alpha Phi Alpha day.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 9, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 9.162, to read as follows:

**9.162. 1. December fourth is hereby designated as "Alpha Phi Alpha Day" in the
2 state of Missouri. The citizens of this state are encouraged to observe the day with
3 appropriate activities and events to commemorate the founding of the first black
4 intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African-Americans.**

**5 2. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., was founded on Tuesday, December 4, 1906,
6 at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Given racial attitudes in 1906, the
7 accomplishments of the original founding members, Dr. Henry Arthur Callis, Charles
8 Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray,
9 Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy, known as the "Seven Jewels" were
10 monumental. These men were determined to bind themselves together to ensure that each
11 would survive the racially hostile environment. In coming together with the simple act of
12 founding the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, these men set outstanding examples of
13 scholarship, leadership, and tenacity.**

**14 3. Today, Alpha Phi Alpha and its more than two hundred ninety thousand
15 members and more than seven hundred thirty chapters over five continents continues its
16 commitment to members of the fraternity and the African-American community by**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 **dedicating itself to fostering the spirit of brotherhood, training a new generation of leaders,**
18 **building the technological capacity of members, bringing consistency to the implementation**
19 **of the fraternity's national programs, and ensuring that chapters have the necessary**
20 **preparation to implement fraternal incentives and day-to-day operations. The Fraternity**
21 **aims are manly deeds, scholarship, and love for all mankind, and its motto is "First of All,**
22 **Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All."**

23 **4. Famous Alpha Phi Alpha members include W.E.B. DuBois, civil rights activist**
24 **and founder of the NAACP; Duke Ellington, jazz musician; Fredrick Douglas, author,**
25 **abolitionist, and civil rights activist; Thurgood Marshall, former United States Supreme**
26 **Court Justice and manager of the landmark United States Supreme Court case *Brown v.***
27 ***Board of Education* which declared segregation unconstitutional; Jesse Owens, Olympic**
28 **gold medalist; Emanuel Cleaver II, United States Representative from Missouri; and Dr.**
29 **Martin Luther King, Jr., civil rights activist and the fraternity's most recognized member.**

30 **5. The Beta Lambda Chapter, chartered in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1919, is Alpha**
31 **Phi Alpha fraternity's second-oldest alumni chapter and the first established west of the**
32 **Mississippi River.**

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