

2015-J1510

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Sigma Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. upon the occasion of celebrating its 25th Anniversary on June 14, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend those illustrious organizations within the State of New York whose focus and intent have made a substantial impact on the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Sigma Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. upon the occasion of celebrating its 25th Anniversary on Sunday, June 14, 2015, at the Larkfield Manor, East Northport, New York; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is an international service organization which was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, DC in 1908; it is the oldest Greek-lettered organization established by African-American, college-educated women; and

WHEREAS, This vital organization is comprised of more than 265,000 members in approximately 983 graduate and undergraduate chapters throughout the United States, Bahamas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Germany, South Korea, Bermuda, Japan, Canada and South Africa; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to improving the quality of life for citizens worldwide and promoting peace, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's membership includes distinguished women who boast excellent academic records, proven leadership skills and a commitment to the global economy through advocacy and service; and

WHEREAS, Since 1908, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority has developed innovative service programs which address significant issues in the areas of education, health, family, the arts, technology and economics; these

programs are outcome-driven and executed with excellence; and

WHEREAS, Chartered by 26 women on June 23, 1990, in Hauppauge, New York, Sigma Psi Omega Chapter's early achievements include the "Youth of Distinction Program"; with an emphasis on African-American Heritage and implemented in the Huntington community, the program sponsors political forums, as well as fundraising for the Long Island Diabetes Foundation and Economic Empowerment; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, just one year later, Sigma Psi Omega opened the Ivy-Academy in the Wyandanch community which focused on making a positive impact on local youth socially, educationally and economically; and

WHEREAS, After 25 years of steadfast commitment to the community, Sigma Psi Omega continues to contribute countless volunteer hours to "serving all mankind"; the chapter's service includes supporting Suffolk County youth through scholarships, incentive awards and recognition programs, partnering with the Town of Babylon's Summer Minority Internship Program, and collecting necessary daily items for homeless Long Island residents through the Interfaith Nutrition Network; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Sigma Psi Omega donates school supplies, book bags and toys to children of incarcerated parents with the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency, and conducts health workshops for young mothers living at various locations of MOMMA's HOUSE; and

WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of its past Chapter Presidents and current President, Pleshette N. Shelton, these essential programs of Sigma Psi Omega follow the international program requirements while meeting the needs of the local Suffolk communities; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Sigma Psi Omega is in direct correlation to the efforts of its members, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the sorority and the population it serves; and

WHEREAS, In light of its commitment, dedication, and successful

efforts, it is the practice of this Legislative Body to extend its highest commendation to the Sigma Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Sigma Psi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. upon the occasion of celebrating its 25th Anniversary on June 14, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sigma Psi Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.