

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1034

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary and the Theta Alpha Chapter in Dallas, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity was founded on November 17, 1911, at Howard University in Washington, D.C., the first black national fraternal organization to be established at a historically black college; and

WHEREAS, From its beginning, the fraternity has worked to build a strong and effective group of men dedicated to the principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift; the fraternity made National Negro Achievement Week an annual observance in 1927, and the event evolved into the celebration of Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, Today, the international fraternity has more than 700 chapters around the world; many of its members are recognized leaders in their fields, which span the arts, science, academics, athletics, business, civil rights, education, and government; and

WHEREAS, The Theta Alpha Chapter in Dallas was formed on October 1, 1935, by a group of exemplary intellectual leaders with a clear vision for the future and high ideals of morality, honor, and scholarship; Theta Alpha Chapter today has more than 150 brothers on its roster and includes learned men from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its history, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has been well represented in many fields of endeavor by such notable

members as William "Count" Basie and William H. "Bill" Cosby in the arts, athletes Michael Jordan and Hank Aaron, business leaders Albert C. Black, Jr., and Earl Graves, civil rights leaders Roy Wilkins and the Reverend Jesse Jackson, political leaders Vernon Jordan and Texas State Senator Royce West, accomplished scientists, astronauts, and academics, and the presidents of numerous renowned institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, The brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the Theta Alpha Chapter in Dallas continue to be at the forefront of community service and social action, and they deserve recognition on the special occasion of their organizations' anniversaries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby commend the members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, and the Theta Alpha Chapter in Dallas on their many contributions to their communities and extend to all congratulations as they celebrate the fraternity's 100th anniversary and the chapter's 75th anniversary; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in recognition of these significant occasions.

West

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 18, 2011.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate