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HOUSE MEMORIAL 26

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Sheryl Williams Stapelton

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING MARCH 9, 2001 AS "ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE".

WHEREAS, African Americans have contributed mightily to the history of New Mexico, dating back to the sixteenth century when Estevan the Moor, a native of north Africa, became the first person of Old World blood to set foot in what is now New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, it is especially important for African American New Mexicans to exercise the political rights that were not available to their African American ancestors; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's African American population, while just about three percent of the total population, is the population of New Mexico that truly helps make New Mexico a

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1 "multicultural" state; and

2 WHEREAS, African American contributions to New Mexico can
3 be increased and enhanced through greater support for youth
4 programs, student tutoring programs, job training and
5 employment programs and civic awareness programs; and

6 WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha works to enhance the political
7 standing of African Americans across the country, ensuring that
8 African Americans' voting rights are protected, that their
9 numbers are accurately counted in the census and that
10 policymakers in city halls, state capitols and in Washington,
11 D.C. know that African Americans care about the important
12 policy issues of the day;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the great
15 accomplishments of African Americans in New Mexico be
16 recognized, that the efforts of Alpha Kappa Alpha be
17 appreciated and that March 9, 2001 be recognized as "Alpha
18 Kappa Alpha Day at the Legislature"; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the New Mexico chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha.