

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 27

## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MCGAUGH.

1701H.021

2       **WHEREAS**, the fraternity of Alpha Gamma Rho attributes much of its founding to the  
3 Morrill Act, signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1862, which granted land and other  
4 financial supports to establish one institution of higher learning in the agricultural and  
5 mechanical sciences within each state of the Union; and

6       **WHEREAS**, Alpha Gamma Rho was founded when two local fraternities from Ohio  
7 State and the University of Illinois met at an international livestock competition in Chicago,  
8 Illinois. Sixteen men originally signed the fraternity's charter on April 4, 1908. The expansion  
9 of Alpha Gamma Rho increased dramatically over the next three decades to almost every land-  
10 grant university in the country; and

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12       **WHEREAS**, in 1914, W.C. Hackleman came to the University of Missouri-Columbia's  
13 campus with the idea of initiating a new chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho. Under his direction a  
14 group of undergraduates formed the Coleman Club, which was named for the first USDA  
15 Secretary of Agriculture, Norman J. Coleman, a Missourian; and

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17       **WHEREAS**, the Coleman Club presented a petition to become a chapter to the national  
18 convention of Alpha Gamma Rho in February, 1916, which was granted; and

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20       **WHEREAS**, on April 24, 1916, the Theta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho was officially  
21 installed at the University of Missouri-Columbia; and

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23       **WHEREAS**, the Theta Chapter was the third chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho to be  
24 established west of the Mississippi River and the eighth chapter of the national fraternity; and

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26       **WHEREAS**, many Theta Chapter alumni have gone on to lead distinguished careers  
27 including United States Secretary of Agriculture, member of the United States House of  
28 Representatives, director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture, and Dean of the College  
29 of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources at the University of Missouri-Columbia; and

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31           **WHEREAS**, several Theta alumni have served as Grand President of the national  
32 fraternity, and many have been inducted into the national Alpha Gamma Rho Hall of Fame; and  
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34           **WHEREAS**, the Theta Chapter has twice received the national Maynard Coe Chapter  
35 Efficiency Award, which is the highest award an Alpha Gamma Rho chapter can receive; and  
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37           **WHEREAS**, in 2003, 2004, 2006, and 2012, the Theta Chapter was honored by the  
38 University of Missouri Greek Life Department with the Excellence Cup, the University’s most  
39 prestigious fraternal award, for excelling in scholarship, leadership, campus involvement,  
40 brotherhood, service, and chapter management within the Greek community; and  
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42           **WHEREAS**, on April 24, 2016, the Theta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho will celebrate  
43 the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chapter’s founding at the University of Missouri-Columbia:  
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45           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
46 Representatives of the Ninety-eighth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
47 concurring therein, hereby designate April 24, 2016, as “Alpha Gamma Rho Day” in  
48 Missouri.

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