

1 A RESOLUTION honoring the life and accomplishments of Eugene Kinckle Jones.

2 WHEREAS, although Eugene Kinckle Jones only lived in Kentucky for a short
3 period of time, his impact continues to reverberate throughout Louisville and the entire
4 Commonwealth of Kentucky; and

5 WHEREAS, Eugene Kinckle Jones came to Louisville, Kentucky, in 1910 to teach
6 at historically Black schools Central High School and Simmons College; and

7 WHEREAS, before coming to Louisville, Eugene Kinckle Jones was one of seven
8 founders of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, the first intercollegiate historically
9 Black fraternity established in the United States, while a student at Cornell University in
10 Ithaca, New York, in 1906; and

11 WHEREAS, Eugene Kinckle Jones, along with six other men, were referred to as
12 "The Jewels," and were the progenitors of the Black Greek intercollegiate fraternal and
13 sororal movement with their bold and transformative work giving rise to an entire
14 community of leaders; and

15 WHEREAS, while living and working in Louisville, Eugene Kinckle Jones took
16 another bold step, recruiting 11 African American men living in Louisville who were
17 college graduates and establishing the first alumni chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity,
18 Incorporated, in Kentucky, thereby sparking the rise of postgraduate chapters in Black
19 Greek life; and

20 WHEREAS, after leaving Louisville, Eugene Kinckle Jones continued to be a
21 trailblazer by answering the call to serve a newly founded organization, the National
22 Urban League; and

23 WHEREAS, Eugene Kinckle Jones ultimately became the first Executive Secretary
24 of the National Urban League and served in that post for 11 years; and

25 WHEREAS, while serving in this new role alongside so many other brilliant men
26 and women, he led the charge to recruit more Blacks to the profession of social work and
27 is credited with professionalizing the discipline; and

1 WHEREAS, because of his leadership and work, the list of men who belong to
2 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, who have served and continue to serve in
3 Louisville is too long to count, but includes the late Dr. W.J. Hodge, Frank Stanley, Sr.,
4 Dr. Joseph McMillan, and George Unseld, and those who continue to work, including
5 Judge Derwin Webb, sculptor Ed Hamilton, entrepreneur Junior Bridgeman, Dr. John
6 Marshall, Dr. Walter Malone, Sr., and transplant surgeon Dr. Christopher Jones; and

7 WHEREAS, the legacy of Eugene Kinckle Jones is impressive and continues to
8 influence the lives of Louisvillians, Kentuckians, and Americans of all ethnicities, hues,
9 and creeds;

10 NOW, THEREFORE,

11 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
12 *Kentucky:*

13 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate do hereby honor the life and
14 accomplishments of Eugene Kinckle Jones and posthumously recognize him for his many
15 accomplishments.

16 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
17 Resolution to Senator Gerald Neal.