PROCLAMATION: Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Gamma Beta Chapter, 70th Platinum – Founders Day Celebration

WHEREAS Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated was founded January 5, 1911 on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana by ten collegiate men. The Founders: Elder Watson Diggs, Byron K. Armstrong, John M. Lee, Henry T. Asher, Marcus P. Blakemore, Guy L. Grant, Paul W. Caine, George W. Edmonds, Ezra D. Alexander, and Edward G. Irvin wanted to use their collective strength to provide an alternative to the racially exclusive student organizations on campus and to strengthen the bonds of friendship among these and other African-American students; and

WHEREAS It is the first black Greek-letter organization founded west of the Appalachian Mountains, the fraternity expanded to address issues that affect students at other colleges and universities and promote the spirit of excellence in every field of human endeavor; and

WHEREAS There are over 700 undergraduate and alumni chapters in every state of the United States as well as chapters in the United Kingdom, Germany, South Korea, Japan, the Caribbean, and South Africa. The total membership exceeds 160,000; and

WHEREAS The Gamma Beta Chapter was chartered January 30, 1948, on the campus of the then Western Michigan College of Education, today known as Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan; and

WHEREAS The Brothers (alumni and active members) of the Gamma Beta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity, Inc. will gather to celebrate 70 years of the Founders’ vision of brotherhood, service and achievement. Now therefore be it

RESOLVED Western Michigan University Board of Trustees do hereby congratulate Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. for celebrating 70 years of Achievement, through Brotherhood, Sacrifice, and Service.