Senate Resolution No. 1970

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING the Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority upon the occasion of hosting its Inaugural "A Sparkle In Time: The Legacy of a Century" Cotillion on April 26, 2026

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose enduring commitment to excellence, service, and the elevation of young people has enriched the civic and cultural life of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority upon the occasion of hosting its Inaugural "A Sparkle In Time: The Legacy of a Century" Cotillion on Sunday, April 26, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority was founded on January 15, 1908, at Howard University in Washington, D.C., by Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and eight extraordinary women who envisioned a sisterhood dedicated to the uplift of women, the service of community, and the cultivation of excellence in every field of human endeavor; in the more than a century since its founding, Alpha Kappa Alpha has grown into one of the largest and most distinguished historically Black sororities in the world, comprising hundreds of thousands of members across more than 1,000 chapters in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, The Tau Omega Chapter holds a place of singular distinction within this legacy: chartered in May 1925, it stands as the fourteenth oldest chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the oldest graduate chapter established in New York City, and the oldest graduate chapter in the entire Tri-state Area; born of the determination of Lambda Chapter alumnae who resolved to continue their service beyond college, the twenty-two charter members of Tau Omega launched a chapter whose impact on the Harlem community and the broader New York Metropolitan area has now spanned a full century; and

WHEREAS, Through more than a hundred years of service, the women of Tau Omega Chapter have addressed the needs of their community across every era and every challenge, from the Harlem Renaissance through the Great Depression, from the Civil Rights Movement through the present day, remaining always in the forefront of the work of education, economic development, health, family support, and the arts, embodying the Sorority's motto "Service to All Mankind" with grace, purpose, and an unyielding standard of excellence; and

WHEREAS, The Inaugural "A Sparkle In Time: The Legacy of a Century" Cotillion represents a new and luminous chapter in Tau Omega's storied tradition, presenting the chapter's Inaugural Class of Debutantes and Escorts in a celebration of poise, confidence, excellence, and elegance

that honors both the timeless rites of the cotillion tradition and the extraordinary century of achievement upon which this chapter stands; and

WHEREAS, A cotillion is among the most enduring expressions of community investment in young people and an occasion that calls forth the best in its honorees, surrounds them with the encouragement of their community, and sends them forward with the confidence that their community believes in who they are and who they are becoming; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proudly moved to honor the Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, its officers and members, and the young women and men of its Inaugural Cotillion Class, whose poise and promise reflect the enduring power of a sisterhood that has been shaping New York's future for one hundred years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority upon the occasion of hosting its Inaugural "A Sparkle In Time: The Legacy of a Century" Cotillion and to extend heartfelt congratulations to the chapter, its debutantes, escorts, and families on this historic milestone; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the officers and members of the Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, in recognition of their century of service to New York and their continued investment in the excellence of the next generation.