



**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (AKA) Boule (National Convention)
Resolution Supporting D.C. Voting Rights
Approved by Convention Delegates July, 2006 in Detroit, Michigan
Submitted by Doxie A. McCoy, Rho Mu Omega Chapter, Washington, DC and
Ferial Bishop, Xi Zeta Omega Chapter, Washington, DC; Chair of the International
AKA Connection Committee (Nonpartisan political arm of AKA)
www.aka1908.com**

Whereas the 600,000 residents of the District of Columbia, of whom a majority are African Americans, have no vote in Congress; and

Whereas, the District of Columbia residents have a non-voting delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton, who can vote in committee, but cannot vote on the House floor, including on the District's own budget: and

Whereas, ranked among the 50 states, D.C. residents pay the third highest federal income taxes per capita in the United States and therefore are required to submit to "taxation without representation;" and

Whereas, District of Columbia residents have fought and died in all U.S wars, including the Iraq War; and

Whereas, after years of discussions, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton forged a new agreement with Rep. Tom Davis (R-VA), Chairman of the Government Reform Committee, the D.C. oversight committee, that led to a new voting rights bill: *the District of Columbia Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act of 2006*, that met the critical conditions of Congresswoman Norton and set in the best intentions of the residents of the District of Columbia, the first committee passage of a full House vote occurring on May 18, 2006 with almost an equal number of Republicans and Democrats voting for the bill; and

Whereas, those conditions assured no political party advantage or disadvantage because the bill creates an additional House seat to be an at-large District in Utah; and

Whereas one of the critical conditions allowed a committee vote on Norton's *No Taxation without Representation Act* for House and Senate seats to send the message that District residents will never give up the fight for equal representation and the vote in both houses of Congress, and

Whereas the bill pending is scheduled for consideration by the Judiciary Committee, the committee of jurisdiction chaired by Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), who has promised a mark-up, and should be held to that promise so that the bill may go to the House floor for consideration; therefore, be it

Resolved that the sorors of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated urge the Speaker of the House, Dennis Hastert, to bring the bill to the floor for a vote before the end of the 109th congressional session; and resolved that the sorors support the swift passage of *House Resolution 5388, the Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act* as an historic and important incremental step toward passage of *House Resolution 5410, the No Taxation*

Without Representation Act in the United State Congress, by urging their representatives and senators, through the AKA Connection, letters, emails and calls, to also support both bills to bring democracy to the taxpayers of the District of Columbia.