

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives is pleased to
2 recognize February 28, 2005, as Prairie View A&M University and
3 Alumni Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Prairie View A&M University originated in the Texas
5 Constitution of 1876 when legislators, after the establishment of
6 the Agricultural & Mechanical College of Texas, pledged in the
7 Texas Constitution of 1876 that "separate schools shall be provided
8 for white and colored children, and impartial provisions shall be
9 made for both"; on August 14, 1876, the Texas Legislature
10 established the "Alta Vista Agricultural and Mechanical College of
11 Texas for Colored Youths"; and

12 WHEREAS, The university was established as a Land Grant
13 College under the federal Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890 and began
14 its tradition of agricultural research and community service, which
15 continues today; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1945, the name of the institution was changed
17 from Prairie View Normal and Industrial College to Prairie View
18 University, and the school was authorized to offer, "as need
19 arises," all courses offered at The University of Texas; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1947, the Texas Legislature changed the name to
21 Prairie View A&M College of Texas and provided that "courses be
22 offered in agriculture, the mechanic arts, engineering, and the
23 natural sciences connected therewith, together with any other
24 course authorized at Prairie View at the time of passage of this

1 act, all of which shall be equivalent to those offered at the
2 Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas at Bryan"; and

3 WHEREAS, On August 27, 1973, the name of the institution was
4 changed to Prairie View A&M University, and its status as an
5 independent unit of the Texas A&M University System was
6 reconfirmed; and

7 WHEREAS, On November 6, 1984, the voters of Texas approved a
8 constitutional amendment that restructured the permanent
9 university fund to include Prairie View A&M University and also
10 designated the university as an "institution of the first-class"
11 under the governing board of the Texas A&M University System; and

12 WHEREAS, In January 1985, the board of regents of the Texas
13 A&M University System responded to the 1984 constitutional
14 amendment by stating its intention that Prairie View A&M University
15 become "an institution nationally recognized in its areas of
16 education and research" and resolved that the university receive
17 its share of the available university fund as previously agreed to
18 by Texas A&M University and The University of Texas at Austin; and

19 WHEREAS, Prairie View A&M University, because of Texas'
20 history of racial discrimination, has had a special role in
21 educating African Americans, many of whom have established
22 themselves as professionals in the fields of business, education,
23 engineering, medicine, and nursing, providing services not only to
24 the citizens of Texas but also to those of the nation and the world;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, The university, its alumni, faculty, staff, and
27 student body have victoriously weathered the period of legal

1 segregation and continue their noble struggle to overcome vestiges
2 of the former de jure racially dual system of public higher
3 education in Texas; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
5 Legislature hereby express appreciation to Prairie View A&M
6 University and alumni for their many contributions to the State of
7 Texas and best wishes to all who are participating in Prairie View
8 A&M University and Alumni Day at the State Capitol; and, be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared for the
11 university as an expression of esteem from the Texas House of
12 Representatives.

Coleman

Craddick	Geren	Menendez
Allen of Harris	Giddings	Merritt
Allen of Dallas	Gonzales	Miller
Alonzo	Gonzalez Toureilles	Moreno of Harris
Anchia	Goodman	Moreno of El Paso
Anderson	Goolsby	Morrison
Bailey	Griggs	Mowery
Baxter	Grusendorf	Naishtat
Berman	Guillen	Nixon
Blake	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hamric	Olivo
Branch	Hardcastle	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Paxton
Burnam	Hegar	Pena
Callegari	Herrero	Phillips
Campbell	Hilderbran	Pickett
Casteel	Hill	Pitts
Castro	Hochberg	Puente
Chavez	Hodge	Quintanilla
Chisum	Homer	Raymond
Coleman	Hope	Reyna
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Riddle
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Ritter
Corte	Hughes	Rodriguez
Crabb	Hunter	Rose
Crownover	Hupp	Seaman
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	Jackson	Smith of Harris
Dawson	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solis
Denny	Keel	Solomons
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Strama
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Straus
Dukes	King of Parker	Swinford
Dunnam	King of Zavala	Talton
Dutton	Kolkhorst	Taylor
Edwards	Krusee	Thompson
Eiland	Kuempel	Truitt
Eissler	Laney	Turner
Elkins	Laubenberg	Uresti
Escobar	Leibowitz	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Luna	Veasey
Farrar	Madden	Villarreal
Flores	Martinez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez Fischer	West
Frost	McCall	Wong
Gallego	McClendon	Woolley
Gattis	McReynolds	Zedler

H.R. No. 542

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 542 was adopted by the House on
February 28, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House