

By: Allen

H.R. No. 1631

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The City of Prairie View is celebrating the 40th
2 anniversary of its incorporation on May 1-3, 2009; and

3 WHEREAS, Located in Waller County, this industrious
4 community is "Open For Business" as it celebrates its birthday with
5 fun, food, and entertainment; the festive affair will include a
6 parade of businesses to showcase the city's economic development
7 achievements and potential; and

8 WHEREAS, Prairie View traces its roots to Alta Vista, the
9 plantation home of Jared E. and Helen Marr Kirby; when her husband
10 died soon after the Civil War, Mrs. Kirby transformed the mansion
11 into a boarding school for young ladies called Alta Vista
12 Institute; she later moved the school to Austin, selling the
13 structure to the State of Texas in 1876; and

14 WHEREAS, That year, the 15th Legislature established the
15 first public institution of higher learning for African Americans
16 in Texas, to be located on the former Kirby plantation; the new
17 agricultural and mechanical training school opened in March 1878
18 with only eight students, and the following year an Act of the state
19 legislature established Prairie View Normal and Industrial
20 Training School; and

21 WHEREAS, Prairie View A&M University flourished, and the city
22 continues to greatly benefit from the institution's traditions and
23 activities that enrich the community and provide exceptional
24 educational opportunities for all Texans; and

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1 WHEREAS, Living up to its motto, "Productive, United,
2 Indomitable," Prairie View can be proud of its notable history and
3 look forward to a future filled with promise and prosperity; now,
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
6 Legislature hereby commemorate the 40th anniversary of the founding
7 of the City of Prairie View and extend to its citizens sincere best
8 wishes for a memorable celebration.