

By: Bell

H.R. No. 26

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. George C. Wright is celebrating his 10th  
2 anniversary as president of Prairie View A&M University on August  
3 15, 2013; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Lexington, Kentucky, George Wright  
5 earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in history from the  
6 University of Kentucky and his doctorate in history from Duke  
7 University; and

8 WHEREAS, After beginning his academic career at the  
9 University of Kentucky in 1977, Dr. Wright taught at The University  
10 of Texas at Austin from 1980 to 1993, where he was the Mastin Gentry  
11 White Professor of Southern History and vice provost for  
12 undergraduate education; in 1993, he became the vice provost for  
13 university programs and director of the African and African  
14 American Studies program at Duke University; he went on to serve as  
15 executive vice president for academic affairs and provost at The  
16 University of Texas at Arlington; on August 15, 2003, he became the  
17 seventh president of Prairie View A&M University, the second-oldest  
18 public institution of higher learning in the Lone Star State; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Wright's scholarship includes three books, *A*  
20 *History of Blacks in Kentucky, Volume 2: In Pursuit of Equality,*  
21 *1890-1980; Life Behind a Veil: Blacks in Louisville, Kentucky,*  
22 *1865-1930; and Racial Violence in Kentucky, 1865-1940: Lynchings,*  
23 *Mob Rule, and "Legal Lynchings",* which earned him the Governor's  
24 Award of the Kentucky Historical Society; his work-in-progress is a

1 biography of the African American leader Robert Charles O'Hara  
2 Benjamin; and

3       WHEREAS, This distinguished scholar, educator, and  
4 administrator has received many fellowships, grants, and awards; he  
5 earned the Jean Holloway Award for Excellence in Teaching, the  
6 "Eyes of Texas Excellence" Award, and the Kappa Alpha Psi  
7 Fraternity Award for Outstanding Black Faculty Member from The  
8 University of Texas at Austin, where he was also the Friar Society  
9 Centennial Fellow for Teaching Excellence, the Silver Spurs  
10 Centennial Teaching Fellow, and the Lillian and Tom B. Rhodes  
11 Centennial Teaching Fellow; in addition, he received the Andrew  
12 W. Mellon Faculty Fellowship at Harvard University; and

13       WHEREAS, Dr. Wright has contributed to his profession as a  
14 member of the editorial boards of the Louisiana State University  
15 Press Southern Biography Series and the *Journal of Southern History*  
16 and through his work with the Southern Historical Association  
17 Program Committee; a leader in his community as well, he has served  
18 on the boards of the Arlington Chamber Foundation and the Medical  
19 Center of Arlington; and

20       WHEREAS, Under his exemplary leadership, Prairie View A&M  
21 University has built on its already sterling reputation for  
22 providing an excellent education to generations of engineers,  
23 nurses, and educators, and Dr. Wright may indeed take great pride  
24 in his skilled stewardship of the university as he celebrates this  
25 special anniversary; now, therefore, be it

26       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
27 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby congratulate Dr. George

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1 C. Wright on his 10 years as president of Prairie View A&M  
2 University and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued  
3 success in his important work; and, be it further

4       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
5 prepared for Dr. Wright as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
6 House of Representatives.