

By: Bell

H.C.R. No. 71

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Prairie View, Texas, lacks its own ZIP code, causing
2 a number of problems for area residents and businesses, as well as
3 for city government; and

4 WHEREAS, Only one address in the city--the U.S. Post Office
5 located on the campus of Prairie View A&M University--has a Prairie
6 View-specific ZIP code; all other locations within Prairie View
7 proper, from the perspective of the U.S. Post Office, belong to
8 either Waller or Hempstead; and

9 WHEREAS, It is possible for Prairie View residents and
10 businesses to receive mail to the Prairie View ZIP code only if they
11 purchase a post office box at the PVAMU post office; in other words,
12 they are forced to choose between direct delivery to their physical
13 location or delivery to an address that correctly reflects their
14 municipal location; or, like Prairie View City Hall, they can
15 choose to manage both a physical address and a mailing address; and

16 WHEREAS, This arrangement, wherein Prairie View residents
17 and businesses have Waller or Hempstead addresses, has caused a
18 number of unintended consequences; for one, it has dangerous
19 ramifications for the efficiency of local emergency services;
20 police, fire, and emergency medical services squads have all
21 reported confusion with the current system, which does not
22 correspond with municipal boundaries; and

23 WHEREAS, The United States Census Bureau has also reported
24 problems, as many questionnaires for Prairie View residents were

1 incorrectly delivered to Waller and Hempstead; moreover, critical
2 official City of Prairie View mail is often sent to the City of
3 Hempstead or the City of Waller, and additionally, citizens
4 regularly express confusion about their correct address and how it
5 relates to their polling location; and

6 WHEREAS, In accordance with the United States Postal Service
7 ZIP Code Boundary Review Process, the City of Prairie View has
8 requested the creation of a ZIP code that includes all properties
9 within its corporate limits, a change that would greatly benefit
10 Prairie View residents, businesses, and city government; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
13 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to
14 request that the Postmaster General designate a ZIP code that
15 includes all properties within the city of Prairie View; and, be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
18 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
19 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
20 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
21 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
22 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
23 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.