

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 246

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, For nearly 150 years, Prairie View A&M University  
2 has served as a beacon of opportunity for its diverse student body,  
3 and its graduates have gone on to contribute to the social,  
4 economic, and cultural fabric of society; and

5           WHEREAS, Prairie View A&M University is the second-oldest  
6 public institution of higher education in Texas as well as its first  
7 state-supported college for African Americans; the institution was  
8 founded during the Reconstruction Era following the Civil War, with  
9 the 15th Texas Legislature establishing it as Alta Vista  
10 Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas for Colored Youth in  
11 1876; and

12           WHEREAS, The university's first class of students, eight  
13 young African American men, began their studies at the campus in  
14 1878; it was originally designated as a normal school for the  
15 training of teachers, but after it was approved as a branch campus  
16 of the Agricultural Experiment Station and as a Land Grant College,  
17 its curriculum expanded to include the arts and sciences, home  
18 economics, agriculture, mechanical arts, and nursing; a four-year  
19 senior college program was introduced in 1919, and a division of  
20 graduate studies, which offered master's degrees in agricultural  
21 economics, school administration, and other subjects, was added in  
22 1937; by an act of the 63rd Texas Legislature, the institution  
23 adopted its present-day name, Prairie View A&M University, in 1973;  
24 and

1           WHEREAS, Prairie View A&M has grown considerably over the  
2 course of its long history, and during the fall 2024 semester, it  
3 posted a record-breaking enrollment of nearly 9,900 students; the  
4 university offers more than 70 degree programs through its eight  
5 colleges and schools, including areas of study as varied as  
6 engineering, natural sciences, business, and criminal justice;  
7 situated on a picturesque campus in rural Prairie View, it welcomes  
8 students from across the United States and from many foreign  
9 countries, and it seeks to invest in programs and services that  
10 address the challenges facing the state's diverse ethnic and  
11 socioeconomic groups, as well as those facing society and the world  
12 at large; and

13           WHEREAS, Since its founding, Prairie View A&M University has  
14 equipped generations of students with the knowledge and skills  
15 necessary to take their place as leaders in the global community,  
16 and it is a privilege to recognize this venerable institution and  
17 the contributions that its graduates have made to the Lone Star  
18 State and beyond; now, therefore, be it

19           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby recognize February 19, 2025, as Prairie View A&M  
21 University Day and extend to all those associated with the school  
22 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

23           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
24 prepared for Prairie View A&M as an expression of high regard by the  
25 Texas House of Representatives.