

By: Hickland

H.R. No. 249

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton is
2 marking the 180th anniversary of its founding with a Charter
3 Celebration on April 11 and 12, 2025; and

4 WHEREAS, The oldest continually operating university in
5 Texas, UMHB traces its roots to February 1, 1845, when the Ninth
6 Congress of the Republic of Texas approved the charter for a new
7 Baptist university in Independence; the school was initially
8 established with a preparatory division and coeducational classes,
9 and in 1851, separate female and male departments were created; the
10 female department became Baylor Female College in 1866, and in
11 1886, the school was relocated to Belton; that same year, the male
12 department consolidated with Waco University, retaining the name
13 Baylor University; and

14 WHEREAS, Through the years, the school underwent several name
15 changes, including Baylor College for Women in 1925, Mary
16 Hardin-Baylor College in 1934, and the University of Mary
17 Hardin-Baylor in 1978; among its many historic milestones, it
18 served as a model for the Baptist Student Union in 1920, established
19 the first school of journalism in a women's college in the United
20 States in 1921, and became the first Texas Baptist college to be
21 accepted as a full member of the Southern Association of Colleges
22 and Schools in 1926; in 1971, the school became coeducational; and

23 WHEREAS, Today, UMHB boasts an enrollment of approximately
24 3,400 students and employs more than 400 full-time faculty and

1 staff; moreover, the school has remained dedicated to Christian
2 higher education and has distinguished itself as a leading
3 institution in the fields of business, nursing, education, and
4 church leadership; and

5 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the University of Mary
6 Hardin-Baylor has provided its students with an education that has
7 enriched them both academically and spiritually, and in so doing,
8 it has made important contributions to Texas and the world beyond;
9 now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the 180th anniversary of the
12 University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and extend to the UMHB community
13 sincere best wishes for a memorable and meaningful celebration;
14 and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the university as an expression of high regard by the
17 Texas House of Representatives.