

By: Kitzman

H.R. No. 276

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A delegation from Prairie View A&M University is  
2 visiting Austin on February 18, 2025, in celebration of Prairie  
3 View A&M University Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, The second-oldest public institution of higher  
5 education in Texas, Prairie View A&M University traces its origins  
6 to 1876, when it was established by the 15th Texas Legislature as  
7 Alta Vista Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas for Colored  
8 Youth; at that time, the board of directors of the Agricultural and  
9 Mechanical College at Bryan was responsible for its management; and

10 WHEREAS, The institution opened a campus in Prairie View on  
11 March 11, 1878, and welcomed its first class of students, which  
12 included eight young African American men; it was originally  
13 designated as a normal school for the training of teachers, but  
14 after it was approved as a branch campus of the Agricultural  
15 Experiment Station and as a Land Grant College, its curriculum  
16 expanded to include the arts and sciences, home economics,  
17 agriculture, mechanical arts, and nursing; a four-year senior  
18 college program was introduced in 1919, and a division of graduate  
19 studies, which offered master's degrees in agricultural economics,  
20 school administration, and other subjects, was added in 1937; by an  
21 act of the 63rd Texas Legislature, the institution adopted its  
22 present-day name, Prairie View A&M University, in 1973; and

23 WHEREAS, Prairie View A&M has grown considerably over the  
24 course of its long history, and during the fall 2024 semester, it

1 posted a record-breaking enrollment of nearly 9,900 students; since  
2 its inception, it has awarded some 46,000 academic degrees; today,  
3 the university benefits from the able leadership of its president,  
4 Dr. Tomikia LeGrande, and offers more than 70 degree programs  
5 through its eight colleges and schools; situated on a picturesque  
6 campus in rural Prairie View, it welcomes students from across the  
7 United States and from many foreign countries; and

8       WHEREAS, Among its many accomplishments, Prairie View A&M is  
9 one of just 11 Historically Black Colleges and Universities to hold  
10 the R2 Carnegie Mellon Distinction, which recognizes institutions  
11 for their contributions to doctoral research; and

12       WHEREAS, Prairie View A&M University has provided countless  
13 students with a strong foundation for achievement, and it is a  
14 pleasure to join in honoring the institution on this special  
15 occasion; now, therefore, be it

16       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
17 Legislature hereby recognize February 18, 2025, as Prairie View A&M  
18 University Day at the State Capitol and extend to all those  
19 affiliated with the institution sincere best wishes for the future;  
20 and, be it further

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