

By: Cain

H.R. No. 949

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Prison Entrepreneurship Program Day at the State
2 Capitol is taking place on April 29, 2025; and

3 WHEREAS, Established in 2004, the Prison Entrepreneurship
4 Program is a nonprofit organization that aims to transform the
5 lives of its participants through completion of a character
6 development program and an entrepreneurship boot camp; in the
7 course of the program, participants take part in a business plan
8 competition and complete numerous classes; upon graduation, they
9 are honored in a formal ceremony and awarded a Certificate in
10 Entrepreneurship from the Baylor University Hankamer School of
11 Business; and

12 WHEREAS, After being released from prison, PEP graduates have
13 experienced high rates of employment and low rates of recidivism,
14 and they continue to benefit from PEP resources such as eSchool
15 classes, the Communitas Business Centers, and family reunification
16 initiatives; to date, nearly 10,000 incarcerated individuals have
17 participated in PEP, and over 4,000 certificates have been awarded;
18 those who have completed the program have established more than 700
19 businesses, including several that generate over \$5 million in
20 gross annual revenue; and

21 WHEREAS, Among its many accolades, PEP has earned the Texas
22 Governor's Award for Criminal Justice Volunteer Service, and it was
23 named a Rising Star in the Fast Company/Monitor Group Social
24 Capitalist Awards; and

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1 WHEREAS, For more than two decades, the Prison
2 Entrepreneurship Program has excelled in its mission of helping
3 former inmates to become productive citizens, and numerous
4 individuals and communities have benefited from its successful
5 efforts; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
7 Legislature hereby recognize April 29, 2025, as Prison
8 Entrepreneurship Program Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm
9 welcome to the visiting delegation.