

By Senator Bullard

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Senate Resolution

A resolution expressing gratitude and affection to all mothers.

WHEREAS, Anne Jarvis, a young Appalachian homemaker, organized women throughout the Civil War to work for better sanitation conditions, and in 1868 continued her efforts by designating "Mothers' Work Days" for improving sanitation, and

WHEREAS, Social Activist Julia Ward Howe, Boston poet, pacifist, suffragist, and author of the lyrics to the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," influenced by Anne Jarvis's sanitation initiative, conceived the idea during the Civil War of calling all women to unite against the war, organized a day encouraging mothers to rally for peace, and wrote a Mother's Day proclamation in 1870 calling for peace and disarmament, and

WHEREAS, Julia Ward Howe failed to get formal recognition of a Mother's Day for Peace, and after Anne Jarvis's passing on May 9, 1905, her daughter Anna Jarvis took up the efforts to establish a day recognizing mothers, and

WHEREAS, as a result of Anna Jarvis's crusade, the first Mother's Day was celebrated in Grafton, West Virginia, on May 10, 1908, to commemorate the anniversary of her mother's passing, and

WHEREAS, the Mother's Day custom eventually spread to 45 other states, and President Woodrow Wilson declared the first national Mother's Day on May 14, 1914, and

WHEREAS, the highest ideals and noblest principles of humanity find their most exemplary expression in the sacrifice and devotion of mothers, and no sincere human being can deny the importance of a mother in the life of a child, and

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30 WHEREAS, mothers exemplify enduring courage and conviction,
31 are characterized by unconditional love for their children, and
32 serve as the anchors that bond families, and

33 WHEREAS, a mother is a gift bestowed on man, never more dear
34 than when bringing forth life in the form of a child, and

35 WHEREAS, it is proper that the members and staff of the
36 Florida Senate recognize the great debt of gratitude owed to all
37 mothers for their strength, guidance, understanding, and love,
38 NOW, THEREFORE,

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40 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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42 That the members of the Senate do hereby express to their
43 own mothers and to all mothers, on behalf of the people of the
44 State of Florida, personal affection and heartfelt gratitude.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon
46 the Journal of the Senate as a tangible token of the love and
47 respect that the members hold for all mothers.