

By Senator Bullard

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution expressing gratitude and affection to all
3 mothers.

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, as a result of Anna Jarvis's crusade, the first
21 Mother's Day was celebrated in Grafton, West Virginia, on May
22 10, 1908, to commemorate the anniversary of her mother's
23 passing, and

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

27 WHEREAS, the highest ideals and noblest principles of
28 humanity find their most exemplary expression in the sacrifice
29 and devotion of mothers, and no sincere human being can deny the

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30 importance of a mother in the life of a child, and

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

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

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

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

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

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