



SPONSOR: Rep. Bush on behalf of all Representatives

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 15

RESPECTING AND HONORING ALL DELAWARE MOTHERS ON MAY 14, 2023, MOTHER'S DAY.

- 1 WHEREAS, Mother's Day will be observed across the nation on Sunday, May 14, 2023; and
- 2 WHEREAS, Mother's Day was established at the suggestion and urging of 2 distinguished American women; and
- 3 WHEREAS, the call for an official Mother's Day was first issued by noted writer, reformer, and suffragist Julia
- 4 Ward Howe in 1872, and this worthy cause was again taken up by Anna M. Jarvis, who organized the first American
- 5 observance of Mother's Day in Philadelphia in 1907; and
- 6 WHEREAS, the first Mother's Day observance was a church service honoring Mrs. Anna Reese Jarvis, held at
- 7 Anna Jarvis's request in Grafton, West Virginia, and in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 10, 1908; and
- 8 WHEREAS, carnations were supplied at that first observance of Mother's Day. White carnations were chosen
- 9 because they represented the sweetness, purity and endurance of a mother's love. Red carnations, in time, became the
- 10 symbol of a living mother while white ones now signify that one's mother has died; and
- 11 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives in May, 1913, unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the
- 12 President, his Cabinet, members of Congress, and all officials of the federal government to wear a white carnation on
- 13 Mother's Day. Congress passed another Joint Resolution May 8, 1914; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Anna Jarvis's untiring efforts led to the passage of a joint resolution of the United States Congress,
- 15 designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day which was signed by President Woodrow Wilson, resulting in the
- 16 first national observance of Mother's Day in May 1914; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Mother's Day is officially a national holiday in the United States with the U.S. flag to be displayed on
- 18 government buildings and at people's homes, "as a public expression of our love and reverence for the mothers of our
- 19 country".
- 20 NOW, THEREFORE:
- 21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware that
- 22 Sunday, May 14, 2023, is hereby recognized as a very special day for all mothers in the State of Delaware.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the House of Representatives call on all Delawareans to  
24 reflect on the many selfless actions of their own mothers and to honor them in the original spirit of the day, as envisioned  
25 by Julia Ward Howe and Anna M. Jarvis, by giving each of them the priceless gift of love.

SYNOPSIS

This House Resolution recognizes Sunday, May 14, 2023, as a very special day for all mothers in the State of Delaware and calls on all Delawareans to reflect on the many selfless acts of their own mothers.