

of the commemorative coin to celebrate the 100th anniversary, the centennial, of Mother's Day as declared by President Wilson.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPITO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from New York, not only for his support of this bill but also for his eloquent statement in support, not just of the coin but of mothers in general. I want to thank him for yielding time to me.

Madam Speaker, as he said, this Sunday, families across the Nation will gather to honor their mothers and grandmothers. By the way, I am a new grandmother. I had to put that in. They will show their gratitude for the contributions these women have made not only to their immediate families but also to their communities at large. The tradition of honoring our mothers on the second Sunday in May goes back almost a century. It is a very interesting and quite simple history.

The tradition of Mother's Day began in the mountains of Appalachia, when a woman named Anna Jarvis sought a more formal way to honor her mother. Her mother's name was Anna Reeves Jarvis, who had passed away in 1905. Ms. Jarvis, a native of Webster County in the wilds of West Virginia, began working with the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church of Grafton, West Virginia, to honor her mother and her mother's contributions to the community.

In 1908, the church officially proclaimed the third anniversary of Anna Reeves Jarvis' passing to be Mother's Day, but Anna Jarvis was not to be deterred. She continued her efforts to honor mothers across the State of West Virginia. In 1910, she was successful in lobbying and in encouraging the Governor of West Virginia to issue the first Mother's Day proclamation, encouraging all West Virginians to attend church and to wear white carnations in honor of their mothers.

□ 1230

Ms. Jarvis built upon her success at home and began a nationwide effort to have Federal recognition of Mother's Day. After 4 years of hard work and dedication, President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation in 1914 encouraging all Americans to fly the American flag at their homes on the second Sunday of May as a public expression of the love and reverence for mothers of our Nation.

West Virginians, we are very proud of our heritage and of the role that our State played in the creation and founding of Mother's Day.

Last year I introduced this underlying legislation, which calls for the minting of a commemorative coin in 2014 to honor the centennial of proclaiming and designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. This coin will be minted in 2014, and as the gentleman from New York expressed, the proceeds of the sales of the coin

will go to the Susan G. Komen Foundation and also to the National Osteoporosis Foundation. I wanted to pick foundations that I knew were dedicated to women's health so that the money will be used for research and development to help the mothers of the future cope with the tragic consequences of osteoporosis or cancer.

As an aside, I would like to wish my mother, Shelley Riley Moore, a very happy and wonderful Mother's Day this Sunday. She has been a very special person in my life and in the life of my entire family. And while that's a personal aside, I know we all feel the same way about our mothers, and taking the time to tell them. I would encourage everyone to do that.

I would like to thank the 291 Members of the House who have joined me in this effort allowing the bill to be considered today. I would encourage the passage of this bill, and again I would encourage the recognition of the place that the mothers of America and really across the world play in the lives of all of us here today.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Let me again thank the gentlewoman from West Virginia for her hard work on bringing this bill.

I think there's no more appropriate thing to do than to celebrate mothers, as we will this Sunday, and celebrate the 100th anniversary of Mother's Day, as we will in 2014, as well as raising money for those causes that will help women.

Let me likewise just say that I would not be standing here today in the well of the House of Representatives if it wasn't for many lessons that were taught to me by my mother. And though she is no longer with us, there is not a day that goes by that she is not in my thoughts and in my heart and I don't hear her.

In closing, I must say on a personal note that I must give a special thanks to my wife and what she does on a daily basis mothering our children.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, April 29, 2010.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Financial Services Committee, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK: I am writing regarding H.R. 2421, the Mother's Day Centennial Commemorative Coin Act.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means maintains jurisdiction over bills that raise revenue. H.R. 2421 contains a provision that establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill, and thus falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, as part of our ongoing understanding regarding commemorative coin bills and in order to expedite this bill for Floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with

respect to H.R. 2421, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the record.

Sincerely,

SANDER M. LEVIN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, May 3, 2010.

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,

Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing in response to your letter regarding H.R. 2421, the "Mother's Day Centennial Commemorative Coin Act," which was introduced in the House and referred to the Committee on Financial Services on May 14, 2009. It is my understanding that this bill will be scheduled for floor consideration shortly.

I wish to confirm our mutual understanding on this bill. As you know, section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for the sale of commemorative coins that are minted under the bill. I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in such surcharges as revenue matters. However, I appreciate your willingness to forego committee action on H.R. 2421 in order to allow the bill to come to the floor expeditiously. I agree that your decision to forego further action on this bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record when this bill is considered by the House. Thank you again for your assistance.

BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman.

Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2421, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CELEBRATING MOTHERS AND MOTHER'S DAY

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1295) celebrating the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1295

Whereas Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of each May;

Whereas the first official Mother's Day was observed on May 10, 1908, in Grafton, West Virginia, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;

Whereas 2010 is the 102nd anniversary of the first official Mother's Day observation;

Whereas in 1908, Elmer Burkett, a U.S. senator from Nebraska, proposed making Mother's Day a national holiday;

Whereas in 1914, Congress passed a resolution designating the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day;

Whereas it is estimated that there are more than 82,000,000 mothers in the United States;

Whereas mothers have made immeasurable contributions toward building strong families, thriving communities, and ultimately a strong Nation;

Whereas the services rendered to the children of the United States by their mothers have strengthened and inspired the Nation throughout its history;

Whereas George Washington said, "My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her.";

Whereas Abraham Lincoln said, "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.";

Whereas we honor ourselves and mothers in the United States when we revere and emphasize the importance of the role of the home and family as the true foundation of the Nation;

Whereas mothers continue to rise to the challenge of raising their families with love, understanding, and compassion, while overcoming the challenges of modern society; and

Whereas May 9, 2010, is recognized as Mother's Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives celebrates the role of mothers in the United States and supports the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to present House Resolution 1295 for consideration. This legislation celebrates the role of mothers in the United States and supports the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.

Introduced by my colleague and friend Representative JEFF FORTENBERRY of Nebraska on April 22, 2010, House Resolution 1295 enjoys the support of over 60 Members of Congress, and I am proud to say that I have gone out on a limb and become one of those cosponsors.

First, I would like to thank the gentleman from Nebraska for introducing the resolution. I would also like to thank Chairman TOWNS and Mr. CHAFFETZ, my colleague on the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for bringing the resolution to the floor today.

On Sunday, May 9, 2010, we will celebrate the 102nd anniversary of the first official Mother's Day, which was celebrated on May 10, 1908, in Grafton, West Virginia, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It may come as a surprise to some, particularly our own mothers, that it took nearly 103 years for our country to officially designate a day praising motherhood. Thankfully, in 1908 Senator Elmer Burkett of Nebraska had the good sense to propose making Mother's Day into a national holiday. And since 1914, Congress has recognized the second Sunday of May as a time to celebrate the immeasurable contributions mothers have made toward building strong families, thriving communities, and our great Nation generally.

I would not presume to speak on behalf of America's 82 million mothers. Instead, I would simply recognize their importance in shaping our society and our future. Many of our greatest national heroes attribute their own successes to the guidance of their moms. While examples abound, I will quote President Abraham Lincoln, who once said of his own mother, "I remember my mother's prayers, and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life." I am sure that similar thanks and praise are appropriate for mothers of every American.

Madam Speaker, although I think you would agree that it is completely inadequate to spend just 1 day a year celebrating the contributions of America's mothers, my wife regularly reminds me that in our house every day is Mother's Day. As a small token of our appreciation, I urge this body to join its 63 cosponsors and agree to House Resolution 1295.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1295. Now, this is something I can actually get really excited about and proud of the body for taking up because the celebration of the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day is something that I am sure we can be unified on.

This Sunday, May 9, many Americans will take a moment to pay tribute to the estimated 82 million mothers for their immeasurable contributions toward building strong families and successful communities throughout our country.

The first Mother's Day was celebrated in Grafton, West Virginia, 102 years ago on May 10, 1908. From there the custom caught on, quickly spreading to 45 other States. In 1914 President Woodrow Wilson declared the first national Mother's Day as a day for Americans to celebrate a woman's role in the family and as a day for citizens to show the flag in honor of those mothers whose sons had died in war. Celebrated on the second Sunday in May,

this holiday has grown to include all mothers in times of war and peace and is now celebrated in many countries across the globe.

Throughout history mothers have traditionally represented the strength of families. Their nurturing spirit transcends any differences in every culture as mothers protect, guide, and teach their children.

As Washington Irving said, "A mother is the truest friend we have, when trials heavy and sudden fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends who rejoice with us in our sunshine desert us; when trouble thickens around us, still will she cling to us and endeavor by her kind precepts and counsels to dissipate the clouds of darkness and cause peace to return to our hearts."

It is with joy in our hearts that once again we honor the women who most of us hold dear, to recognize the steadfast love and support of our mothers who helped shape us throughout our lives.

On a personal note, I miss my mother. She passed away some years ago. I love her and I miss her.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my distinguished colleague from the State of Alabama (Mr. BACHUS).

Mr. BACHUS. I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I wish to speak on this bill and also on the coin bill.

There is a bond between mothers and their children that words cannot describe. For the lucky ones among us, the more fortunate ones, a mother, our mother or someone else's mother, or a mother figure such as a grandmother, has made all the difference in the world in our lives. The tender care, the unending support, and the unconditional love of a mother truly are life's greatest blessings for a child.

Every year on the second Sunday in May, this Nation honors its mothers. It will do so again this Sunday. We seek to acknowledge their tireless support and their enduring love.

Few of us realize how the tradition began. As Mrs. CAPITO said, it began through the efforts of one lady in 1868 at the end of the Civil War. Her name was Anna Jarvis, and she dreamed of an annual Mother's Day.

However, she didn't live to see that, but her daughter did. On May 9, 1907, the second anniversary of Mrs. Jarvis's death, her daughter organized a group of friends, and within a year they began having church services on the second Sunday of May throughout West Virginia. It spread to Philadelphia. And then in 1910, the Governor of West Virginia, Governor William Glasscock, issued a Mother's Day proclamation. The next year Mother's Day services were held in all the States.

And later that year, President Woodrow Wilson, responding to a joint resolution of Congress, issued a proclamation setting aside the second Sunday of each May for displaying the American flag as a public expression of our love and reverence for our mothers. The mothers of our country.

Today that celebration has spread throughout the world. It began in West Virginia and here in the United States, another thing we as Americans can be proud of as we honor our mothers this Sunday.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my distinguished colleague from the State of Georgia (Mr. GINGREY).

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. I thank my friend from Utah for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today as a proud supporter of House Resolution 1295, celebrating the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day.

Mothers are the foundation of the family, and their care and love of children have and continue to nurture the future leaders of this great Nation. Each day I am overwhelmed by the wonderful mothers in my own life, in my family, all the way from my mom to my wife to my daughters, which represents three generations of commitment to strong families and successful youth. These women, and so many like them, are the backbone of America.

Madam Speaker, today I thank my mother for instilling in my brothers and me the hard work, good education, personal responsibility, respect for the diversity of others, love of family and country, but, most importantly, love of God.

I must also take a moment to honor my wife for her undying love and devotion to our four children and now, as of Monday, 10 grandchildren.

□ 1245

My wife, Billie, has and forever will be an example for all mothers on how to raise a strong and beautiful family. I'm proud of all mothers in the 11th District of Georgia who are dedicated to family values and compassion for their children. While passing on the ideals and strength that they have instilled into each child they rear, America's mothers are responsible for raising the next generation of mature adults.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, as I know they will, honoring all blessed mothers for their commitment to protecting our Nation's greatest treasure—the American family.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I would like to yield 5 minutes to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), the chief sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. I thank the gentleman for the time.

Madam Speaker, as we all know, this Sunday, millions of Americans will celebrate the 102nd Mother's Day. The dedication, the grace, and the love of our mothers are written on all of our hearts and the history of our Nation, and I think it can be rightly said that the great character of America is due to the collective visionary might of the American mother. President Abraham Lincoln elucidated this very well: "All I am or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother. I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."

Across time, traditions, and cultures, mothers have long been recognized and uplifted for their irreplaceable contributions to the family and to society. But it wasn't until a woman, as we heard earlier, from Grafton, West Virginia, named Ana M. Jarvis, held an observance in her mother's honor at St. Andrews Methodist Church, that the modern American Mother's Day first began. The quest for the official recognition of Mother's Day, however, began in my own home State of Nebraska. Ms. Jarvis and the Young Men's Christian Association urged the junior Senator from Nebraska, Elmer Burkett, to bring the celebration before Congress for a vote in 1908. It didn't pass then—it took until 1914—but they got it done. Congress eventually declared that "the service rendered the United States by the American mother is the greatest source of the country's strength and inspiration."

Since that time, our society has undergone vast transformations, but it is a testament to the enduring role of the family as the true foundation of America that Mother's Day still stands strong, even amid the nuances of modernity. Mothers have sustained and strengthened our Nation through every generation, and their compassionate leadership in the family and in their communities has remained a constant even through turbulent times. Each day, mothers are called to carry on the essential challenge of nurturing and fortifying our world, of building a better future for their—for our—children. The strength of the Nation ultimately is determined by the strength of our families and communities—and mothers shape that strength through their unique and integral role.

Madam Speaker, in times when we have become mired in bitter policy disputes, I believe it is refreshing to come together as a body now to honor the women who have literally given us the breath to stand on this floor, to defend our convictions, and maybe, to try to effect some good in this world. We join with millions of Americans echoing the father of our country, George Washington, who said, "All I am, I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her."

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the time, and I urge my colleagues to support this timeless resolution.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I simply want to say that the foundation, the future of our country, is rooted in our families—and that starts with mothers. The mother of our children, my wife, I can't thank her enough for what she does and for what the literally millions and millions of mothers do and sacrifice every day for the sake of their children.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1295, which celebrates the role of mothers in the United States and supports the goals and ideals of Mother's Day. Mother's Day is one of the most important holidays in our country. It is critical that we honor and recognize the central role that mothers play in raising the youth of our nation and shaping the future of our country.

I was fortunate enough to be raised by a wonderful mother who lovingly cared for me and taught me the skills that I would need to excel in my adult life and career. There are more than 82 million mothers in the United States and each one of them deserves to be recognized on Mother's Day. Mothers work tirelessly every day to raise their children in loving households while juggling careers and countless other responsibilities.

We owe special recognition to the single mothers across the country, who work longer and harder to ensure that their children have the resources and care they need to experience a fulfilling childhood and grow into well-rounded adults.

We also must not forget the grandmothers and aunts, in California's 37th district and across the country, who raise their grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. No one requires them to assume this responsibility; many of them have already raised or are currently raising children of their own. But they do so selflessly and without complaint, loving these children as if they were their own. Mother's day is a celebration of these individuals too—it is a salute to all of the women across the country who shape the lives of America's youth.

We can never repay the mothers of this country for their hard and often thankless work. Especially in these tough economic times, many of them struggle financially, taking on extra jobs to make sure that they can put food on the table and send their children to school in new clothes. These individuals deserve our support. This Congress has responded to that need with the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which will ensure for women across the country that equal work gets equal pay. We also passed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which will help mothers provide themselves and their children with quality health care and end health insurance discrimination against women. Ensuring this basic fairness is the least we can do for the mothers who mean so much to our country.

Our nation's most influential leaders shared this reverence for our nation's mothers. George Washington once said, "All I am I owe to my mother, I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her." Abraham Lincoln

echoed this sentiment, concisely stating, "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1295.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. I urge the passage of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, in closing, I just want to thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY) for his foresight and for proposing this resolution. In closing, I want to wish all the moms in Massachusetts and across America a happy Mother's Day, including my own mom and my mother-in-law and my wife.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1295.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1247) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 3 through 9, 2010, and throughout the year.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1247

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to recognize and promote the important contributions of public servants and to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the Nation through work at all levels of government;

Whereas millions of individuals work in government service in every city, county, and State across America and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas public service is a noble calling, involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions;

Whereas Federal, State, and local governments are responsive, innovative, and effective because of the outstanding work of public servants;

Whereas the United States is a great and prosperous Nation, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the Nation benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals;

Whereas public servants—

(1) defend our freedom and advance the interests of the United States around the world;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to our military and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fires;

(4) ensure equal access to secure, efficient, and affordable mail service;

(5) deliver Social Security and Medicare benefits;

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and the Nation's parks;

(8) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunity and healthy working conditions;

(9) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(10) help the Nation recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;

(11) teach and work in our schools and libraries;

(12) develop new technologies and explore the earth, moon, and space to help improve our understanding of how our world changes;

(13) improve and secure our transportation systems;

(14) promote economic growth; and

(15) assist our Nation's veterans;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States, and are on the front lines in the fight against terrorism and in maintaining homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent America's interests and promote American ideals;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, abuse, and dangers to public health;

Whereas the men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, as well as those skilled trade and craft Federal employees who provide support to their efforts, are committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances, and contribute greatly to the security of the Nation and the world;

Whereas public servants have bravely fought in armed conflict in defense of this Nation and its ideals, and deserve the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service;

Whereas government workers have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas, and serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants;

Whereas May 3 through 9, 2010, has been designated Public Service Recognition Week to honor America's Federal, State, and local government employees; and

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week is celebrating its 26th anniversary through job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year;

(2) salutes government employees for their unyielding dedication and spirit of public service;

(3) honors those government employees who have given their lives in service to their country;

(4) calls upon a new generation to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession; and

(5) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at all levels of government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, as chairman of the House subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Federal workforce, postal service, and the District of Columbia, I am pleased to present House Resolution 1247 for consideration. This legislation expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year.

As the original sponsor of the resolution, along with my friend and colleague, Mr. CHAFFETZ of Utah, I'm proud to say that House Resolution 1247 has the support of 60 Members of Congress. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. CHAFFETZ for jointly introducing the resolution with me and for his work on bringing this to the floor today. I'd also like to thank the Partnership for Public Service for their role in organizing this annual celebration week, as well as for their superior work promoting careers in the public sector.

Madam Speaker, this week marks the 27th anniversary of Public Service Recognition Week. From May 3 through May 9, 2010, Public Service Recognition Week is designed to commemorate the hard work, dedication, and sacrifice made by our Nation's Federal, State, and local government employees. It's highly appropriate that we take a moment each year to fully appreciate the extraordinary deeds that are performed by our public employees throughout our country and abroad. Among other things, public servants fight fires and they enforce our laws; teach in our schools and libraries; defend our Nation; and protect the environment and our national parks. These individuals deserve our highest praise, although too often they are criticized and undervalued.

There are millions of individuals who work in government services in every city, county, and State across America and in hundreds of cities abroad. We all benefit enormously from the hard work of these dedicated individuals, and I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight a terrific example from my own district of a good Federal employee