

day, we oftentimes forget to thank them formally as well. As a country, we need to do more to thank teachers and educators for their hard work and service to America's youth.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. American Education Week gives us the opportunity to take a week to think about and thank all the educators for their work. Hopefully this week will also inspire all Americans to think about the work that educators do, not just during American Education Week but every day, so that we begin to give teachers and educators the thanks and appreciation that they truly deserve; and that, in each individual community, those people, those parents and the others affected in the community, support their teachers, the educators and all the support staff, and all the moving parts that make these things happen so they can truly feel the love and support of a Nation and make that environment the very best environment it can be for our kids to learn.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas, Representative RUBÉN HINOJOSA.

Mr. HINOJOSA. I rise today in support of H. Res. 879. I want to thank the National Education Association, NEA, and its 3.2 million members for designating November 15 through November 21 as American Education Week.

I also wish to acknowledge and thank Representative MINNICK from Idaho for introducing this important resolution, and I thank the gentlelady from California for giving me time to speak.

As subcommittee chairman for Higher Education, Lifelong Learning and Competitiveness, I congratulate all of our teachers, higher education faculty and staff, custodians, substitute educators, bus drivers, clerical workers, food service professionals, workers in skilled trades, health and student services workers, security guards, technical employees, and librarians for working tirelessly on behalf of our children, parents, and communities.

Our Nation's public schools and colleges and universities continue to be the great equalizer and the backbone of American democracy. They open the doors of opportunity to millions of graduates every year.

In order to access family-sustaining jobs in our economy, it is imperative that all children, all youth and adults receive a high quality education and are equipped with 21st century skills to thrive in our Nation's economy.

As our Nation strives to build a world-class educational system, increase graduation rates at all levels, and improve literacy for adult learners, we must recognize our teachers, our principals, our faculty, and school personnel for their professionalism and extraordinary commitment to care for and educate our children, youth, and adults for a 21st century workforce.

I commend President Obama, I commend Chairman MILLER and my colleagues for making historic investments in education and for ensuring accessibility and affordability in higher education with the enactment of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

I urge my colleagues and our Nation to observe American Education Week and the invaluable contributions of our Nation's educators. You all make a world of difference in the lives of our students and families. I thank you.

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

Ms. WATSON. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. MINNICK).

Mr. MINNICK. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California and extend her an invitation to come to Idaho anytime.

Madam Chair, you'd be a good addition.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 879, celebrating the goals and ideals of American Education Week. Public schools are the backbone of America's democracy and the key to our continuing competitiveness in a 21st century global economy.

In 2010, the 89th American Education Week will take place November 14 to November 20. Each day will spotlight the importance of providing every child in America with a quality public education from pre-K through college.

As Federal legislators, we must continue to support American public education and make it the very best in the world. Dedicated American educators, teachers, principals, administrators, and their trade organizations work tirelessly to serve students and communities throughout the Nation with care and professionalism.

American Education Week celebrates the effort and achievements of these dedicated professionals and encourages community, parental and elected government official involvement in our public schools.

□ 1400

As a parent of four children, all of whom benefited from an outstanding public school education, I have witnessed firsthand the extraordinary lengths to which our hardworking teachers go in helping American youth to learn. I applaud the nearly 15,000 teachers and thousands of support staff in Idaho and those throughout this great Nation who devote their professional lives to ensuring our children are equipped with the skills, knowledge and work ethic required to succeed in 21st century America.

Let's all enthusiastically endorse American Education Week. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and recognize the efforts and sacrifices of America's educators.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H. Res. 879 supporting the goals and ideals of American Education Week.

I would like to share a quote from Mr. William Arthur Ward who said "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." I agree with Mr. Ward about the incredible difference a great teacher can make in a child's life. It is in the classroom environment that an educator can best lay a solid foundation in children's lives by instilling the values of determination and diligence within them. Quality education is thus an essential element to opening the door to a bright future for our country.

Madam Speaker, in celebrating American Education Week, we stand to acknowledge and celebrate the true importance of a fine education. During the week of November 14–November 20, I encourage my colleagues in Congress and all Americans to please take the time to appreciate the people who have made a difference in educating children across the nation, especially the local educators in Georgia's 4th District. I would like to personally thank the school board members, administrators, teachers, librarians, counselors, parents, substitute teachers, custodians, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and staff members who have devoted their lives to educating the youth of my district.

I truly appreciate the important difference that educators make in children's lives through their dedication and tireless effort. I encourage my colleagues to join me in expressing their appreciation for all educators in the nation during American Education Week by supporting this important resolution.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 879, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### COMMENDING THE HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1357) commending and congratulating the Hollywood Walk of Fame on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1357

Whereas the Hollywood Walk of Fame is a tribute to those who have significantly contributed to the entertainment industry;

Whereas E.M. Stuart, who served as the volunteer president of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce in 1953, is credited with creating the idea of the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas the Hollywood Walk of Fame was established to maintain the glory of a community whose name means glamour and excitement in the four corners of the world;

Whereas in January 1956 the plans for the Hollywood Walk of Fame were submitted to the Los Angeles City Council;

Whereas the Los Angeles City Council embraced the idea of the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and subsequently instructed the Board of Public Works to prepare the engineering specifications for the Hollywood Walk of Fame and to create the necessary assessment district to pay for the improvements associated with the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce established the Hollywood Improvement Association to work with the City of Los Angeles in creating the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas, while the City of Los Angeles worked on the creation of the assessment district between May 1956 and the fall of 1957, the Hollywood Improvement Association worked on selecting the individuals to be honored by placement of a star in the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas four categories of stars were established to represent four aspects of the entertainment industry: motion picture, television, recording, and radio;

Whereas, on August 15, 1958, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and the City of Los Angeles unveiled eight stars on Hollywood Boulevard at Highland Avenue to demonstrate what the Hollywood Walk of Fame would look like;

Whereas these eight stars honored Olive Borden, Ronald Colman, Louise Fazenda, Preston Foster, Burt Lancaster, Edward Sedgwick, Ernest Torrence, and Joanne Woodward;

Whereas, on February 8, 1960, construction began on the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas, on March 28, 1960, the first star, awarded to Stanley Kramer, was laid in the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas, on November 23, 1960, the Hollywood Walk of Fame was dedicated in conjunction with the Hollywood Christmas Parade;

Whereas the Hollywood Walk of Fame was not completed until the spring of 1961, at which time it was accepted by the Board of Public Works and contained 1,558 stars;

Whereas, on May 18, 1962, the Los Angeles City Council approved an ordinance that specified that the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce should advise the City of Los Angeles in all matters pertaining to the addition of stars to the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas, by May 21, 1975, the date on which Carol Burnett was awarded a star, a total of 99 stars had been added to the original Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas in 1978 the Cultural Heritage Board of the City of Los Angeles designated the Hollywood Walk of Fame as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument Number 194;

Whereas in 1980 entertainer Johnny Grant was awarded a star in the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas after being awarded the star, Johnny Grant was so enthused about the honor that he involved himself in creating a memorable star ceremony for subsequent star recipients;

Whereas Johnny Grant was the chairman of the Walk of Fame Committee from 1980 until his death in January 2008;

Whereas it was through Johnny Grant's work that the Hollywood Walk of Fame turned into an international icon;

Whereas in 1984, under Johnny Grant's leadership, a fifth category of star, live theater, was added to allow individuals who excelled in all types of live performance to be considered for stars in the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas when constructed the Hollywood Walk of Fame was designed to accommodate 2,518 stars and by the 1990s space in the most popular areas was difficult to find;

Whereas Johnny Grant approved the creation of a second row of stars in the Hollywood Walk of Fame that would alternate with existing stars;

Whereas, on February 1, 1994, the Hollywood Walk of Fame was extended one block to the west from Sycamore Avenue to La Brea Avenue on Hollywood Boulevard;

Whereas, on February 1, 1994, Sophia Loren was honored with the 2,000th star in the Hollywood Walk of Fame;

Whereas the Hollywood Walk of Fame is a top visitor attraction in the City of Los Angeles; and

Whereas today an average of two stars are added to the Hollywood Walk of Fame each month: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives commends and congratulates the Hollywood Walk of Fame on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to speak today and to vote for H. Res. 1357, a bill I introduced to honor one of the most well-known historical landmarks in the world, the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

For 50 years, the Hollywood Walk of Fame has existed as a tribute to those who have contributed to the unparalleled success of America's entertainment industry. As the chairwoman of the Congressional Entertainment Industries Caucus and a Representative from the City of Los Angeles, I am uniquely aware of the role Hollywood has played in presenting the values, the culture, and the creativity of the United States to audiences around the world. Across the globe, Hollywood means glamour and excitement, and in our district it also means solid jobs and revenue.

In 1953, E.M. Stuart, the president of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce,

came up with the idea of creating the Hollywood Walk of Fame as a tribute to the industry, and on March 28, 1960, filmmaker Stanley Kramer was awarded the first star. Fifty years later, an average of two stars are added each month, and the Walk of Fame has become one of the top visitor attractions in the City of Los Angeles and also a destination in the United States.

I was proud to submit H. Res. 1357 to recognize this important cultural landmark, and I urge my colleagues to vote in support of the resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I need to stand in opposition to this. Certainly, the Hollywood Walk of Fame has provided enjoyment for untold numbers of people. It's a great destination. Hollywood is certainly a unique treasure that is unique to the United States of America and specifically southern California.

To my colleagues who wholeheartedly support and endorse and stand behind this resolution, maybe I'm a wet bucket of water on a parade; but I've got to tell you, I just don't feel like it's the proper role of the United States Congress to recognize the Hollywood Walk of Fame on its 50th anniversary.

There are plenty of ways to recognize and to thank and congratulate the stars of Hollywood and the impact that they've had on the American ideal and the American entertainment industry. I just don't feel like it's the proper role of the United States Congress to do this, with all due respect. Recognizing educators, absolutely. We're about to recognize Flag Day, of course. Hollywood Walk of Fame? Maybe not so much.

So with all due respect to the 50-plus colleagues on both sides of the aisle that have supported this resolution, I, for one, as a Representative of the United States Congress, simply cannot stand here and voice my support that this is a good use of the Congress' time.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I am now proud to yield such time as he may consume to my good friend, my distinguished friend from the State of New York, Representative TOWNS.

Mr. TOWNS. I would like to thank the chair of the subcommittee for yielding time to me because I wanted to respond to a couple of things that my good friend on the other side of the aisle said. First of all, I know him. I know that he's a very dedicated and committed human being—and of course outstanding kicker in his day, and of course set records as a kicker. I think that he probably misunderstood what this bill is named. It's the Hollywood "Walk" of Fame. I want to make certain that he understands that. And many people who have walked there have contributed so much to society, contributed so much to organizations.

When you look back and you see in terms of the contributions that these people have made, then I think that my colleague would probably review it and probably would withdraw his objections. When you look at the amount of money they've given to breast cancer, when you look at the amount of money they've given to AIDS and all these diseases that we need to do extensive research on, that people that have walked these streets and walked the Hollywood Walk of Fame, when we think about the things that they've done, then I really feel that if he did, he would say wait a minute.

You know, every now and then we make a mistake or we say some things that we wish we had not said, and I think this is the situation now with my colleague because if you think about the Hollywood Walk of Fame and the contributions of the people that are listed on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, then I really feel that he would join us in supporting this legislation.

On that note, I ask my good friend on the other side of the aisle to reconsider.

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

Madam Speaker, Chairman TOWNS is one of my favorite people. I have really come to grow and appreciate him; I just happen to disagree with him on this.

There are a lot of people on the Hollywood Walk of Fame who have done some amazing and great things, and for that they should be congratulated, but not necessarily from the United States Congress. There are a whole lot of people on that Walk of Fame we probably shouldn't recognize in any way, shape or form.

The point I'm trying to make is there is a certain segment of our population, from the entertainment industry and those involved in sports, that gets more adulation from the public than they could possibly take, and yet we have true heroes, real heroes who don't get an ounce of appreciation from this body that really do deserve it.

The other day I was watching television—this was just recently—and there was a National Guardsman who pulled around a corner—and I can't remember what State it was, I want to say it was the State of Washington, but I could be wrong on that. All of a sudden, there was a truck that had overturned in a river, and suddenly this guy found himself in a situation where there is somebody who is struggling for his life. He and a few other people, just citizens who woke up that morning and had no idea that they were going to be the heroes that day, went down that river, they smashed open that window, they grabbed a rope and saved this person's life. Where are the recognitions for those true heroes?

I don't think Sophia Loren needs any more congratulations from the United States Congress. And as important as it is to the economy in southern Cali-

fornia—I've got an amusement park in northern Utah called the Lagoon. I'm not coming to the United States Congress asking for recognition of it.

Mr. TOWNS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Sure, I would be happy to yield.

Mr. TOWNS. When I think about the Hollywood Walk of Fame, I think about the man who signed the Martin Luther King Holiday bill by the name of Ronald Reagan. He's on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. I just want the gentleman to know that.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Reclaiming my time, good point. I'm happy to recognize Ronald Reagan, and I appreciate your support. I'll bring a resolution at some point recognizing Ronald Reagan. There's a corner worth standing on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Look, these issues come before the United States Congress. I think there is a time and a place to recognize significant achievements within the United States of America. I am going to ask for a recorded vote on this. It will be an interesting question.

My point is, the economy is struggling; we've got real issues out there. Like I said, there is a time and a place to make these kinds of recognitions. I just don't know that this rises to the same level as recognizing teachers or nurses who hold people's hand as they are there in the final days of their lives.

There are a lot of things that I think we could unanimously look at and recognize. I, for one, don't think that Hollywood needs more recognition. And with all due respect, I, for one, at least will be voting against this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I proudly come before this body representing the United States members from all over this country because I think Hollywood reflects who we are as a people. And I heard and I am so pleased that my colleague, Representative TOWNS, mentioned that the legendary and iconic President, Ronald Reagan, has a star on the Walk of Fame. I also want everyone listening to know, Madam Speaker, that Senator Fred Thompson, who was a star of a crime series over a period of years, has a star on the Walk of Fame and even ran for President of the United States. And I want you to know, Madam Speaker and my colleagues, that Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, *The Terminator*, has a star on the walk of fame. He is a Republican and proudly serves as a Republican. He represents the great State of California where Hollywood is.

I want you to know that I recently took down to South Africa, Madam Speaker, a project named after a gentleman who was the face of Hollywood, because I was told several years ago that they were getting ready to close

the Rosa Parks Library and Information in Cape Town South Africa. That is the information center attached to our embassy, the U.S. Embassy. They were going to close it down because they said the Cold War was over.

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So I took 100 of America's best and loved films, films which are loved all over the world, which show our principles, our values, our beliefs, and our humanity, because everyone is influenced by our movies.

I also want to say, Madam Speaker, that, as our image has been tarnished, I feel that our classic movies and the people who starred in those movies, who have stars on the Walk of Fame, could be recognized in other countries and could help improve our image.

So I would hope that all Members, Madam Speaker, recognize that they represent the people of America, and I would hope that the Members here will vote to support an industry that really speaks to the world about our mores, our principles, our great talents, and our arts. It is an industry that speaks proudly and distinctly to the rest of the world. So I would hope that we would have, really, a unanimous vote on celebrating, through this resolution, the Walk of Fame.

I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, look, there are lots of reasons America and the world like Hollywood. I just don't believe, in my heart of hearts, that the United States Congress, in a resolution by the House of Representatives, is the right way to recognize the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

From my vantage point, you certainly don't look to the Hollywood Walk of Fame or to Hollywood in general for the principles and values that are representative of the United States of America. That Paul Reubens' *Pee-wee Herman* has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame is a far cry from Ronald Reagan's having a star.

Again, I am just one voice here in this body, but I've got to tell you, as to the people I represent, I'll have a hard time going back to them, saying, You know what? I did the work of the people, and I'm back there, spending the people's money, and we recognized the Hollywood Walk of Fame. I just can't do it.

Again, with all due respect, there are a lot of good Members back there, and that might be an interesting debate to take the few thousand people and go back and forth. I'm going to start with Paul Reubens, and I appreciate your starting with Ronald Reagan. Somewhere in between is probably the right answer.

We need to get on with the Nation's business, with the debt and with the other crises that we are dealing with. That is my point with this, Madam Speaker. I won't take any more of the people's time.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1357.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS OF FLAG DAY

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1429) celebrating the symbol of the United States flag and supporting the goals and ideals of Flag Day.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 1429

Whereas Flag Day is celebrated annually on June 14, the anniversary of the official adoption of the American flag by the Continental Congress in 1777;

Whereas, on June 14, 1777, in order to establish an official flag for the new Nation, the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act, which stated, "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation";

Whereas the second Flag Act, signed January 13, 1794, provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795;

Whereas the Act of April 4, 1818, which provided for 13 stripes and one star for each State, to be added to the flag on July 4 following the admission of each new State, was signed by President James Monroe;

Whereas in an Executive order dated June 24, 1912, President William Howard Taft established the proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in 6 horizontal rows of 8 each, a single point of each star to be upward;

Whereas in an Executive order dated January 3, 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower provided for the arrangement of the stars in 9 rows staggered horizontally and 11 rows of stars staggered vertically;

Whereas the first celebration of the American flag is believed to have been introduced by Bernard Cigrand, a Wisconsin school teacher, who arranged for his pupils at Stony Hill School in Waubeka to celebrate June 14 as "Flag Birthday" in 1885;

Whereas, on June 14, 1894, the Governor of New York ordered that the American flag be displayed at all public buildings in the State, prompting many State and local governments to begin observing Flag Day;

Whereas President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first nationwide Flag Day in 1916;

Whereas in 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed legislation requesting National Flag Day be observed annually;

Whereas the United States flag is a symbol of our great Nation and its ideals;

Whereas in times of national crisis, Americans look to the United States flag as a symbol of hope, courage, and freedom;

Whereas the United States flag is universally honored;

Whereas the United States flag honors the men and women of the Armed Forces who have given their life in the defense of the United States;

Whereas the United States flag serves as a treasured symbol of the loss of loved ones to the countless families of those who died in defense of our Nation; and

Whereas June 14, 2010, is recognized as Flag Day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives celebrates the United States flag and supports the goals and ideals of Flag Day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. WATSON. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 1429 celebrates our Nation's most enduring symbol: the American flag. With this resolution, this Chamber expresses its support for the annual recognition of Flag Day.

The gentleman from Ohio, Representative ROBERT LATTA, introduced H. Res. 420 on June 9, 2010. It was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which waived consideration of the bill to expedite its consideration on the floor today.

We celebrate Flag Day on June 14, the anniversary of the Continental Congress' passage of the first Flag Act in 1777. The flag is our symbol—a symbol of hope, courage, and freedom. All around the world, it represents the American people and our highest ideals. We, the people, have always looked to our flag as a symbol of hope, courage, and freedom, and for over 100 years, we have celebrated it each June.

As stated in this bill, the first celebration of the American flag is believed to have been introduced by Bernard Cigrand, a Wisconsin schoolteacher, who arranged for his pupils to celebrate June 14 as Flag Day in 1885. In 1947, President Truman signed legislation requesting that Flag Day be observed nationally each year, formalizing the tradition of annual Flag Day celebrations.

The flag honors the countless men and women of the Armed Forces who

have died serving to defend the United States. It is a lasting symbol of their sacrifice. As public servants, we rightly pledge our allegiance to the flag each day as do millions of Americans.

As we remember who we serve here in this Chamber, the flag stands before the entire world as a symbol of our shared values, our hopes, our aspirations, and our ideals each day of the year, and I am glad that we take this time each June to celebrate that fact.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to stand before you today in support of House Resolution 1429. This resolution celebrates the symbol of the United States, and it supports the goals and ideals of Flag Day.

Flag Day is celebrated on June 14, which was the anniversary of the official adoption of the American flag by the Continental Congress in 1777. This was done by the first Flag Act, which stated, "Resolved, that the flag of the United States be made of 13 stripes, alternating red and white, that the Union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

Since 1777, our flag's design has been altered three times under Executive orders, rearranging the design of the stars and the stripes each time a State was added.

To reiterate what the gentlewoman has stated, the first celebration of Flag Day is believed to have been introduced by Bernard Cigrand, a Wisconsin schoolteacher, who arranged for his students at Stony Hill School to celebrate June 14 as Flag Birthday in 1885.

President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first nationwide Flag Day in 1916. In 1947, President Harry Truman signed legislation requesting National Flag Day be observed annually.

Flag Day is an important holiday as our flag is the official symbol for our great Nation and its ideals. Our flag serves as a beacon of hope, courage, and freedom during times of crisis and triumph alike.

The flag honors the men and women of the Armed Forces who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in defending the United States, and it serves as a symbol to those families who have lost loved ones while defending our Nation.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I ask for unanimous consent on H. Res. 1429 as we celebrate our Nation's flag.

Ms. WATSON. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, each one of our States proudly flies its own flag, but the flag that reigns supreme flies above ours. In each one of our offices here in the Capitol, we have the flags from our States or from our territories and the flag of the United States.