They actually recognized the fact that freedom is not free, and that we paid a tremendous price for it. And so today, I remember with gratitude all of those who, like my brother, Bill, made the supreme sacrifice, all of those who in the past wore the uniform of the United States military, like some of the people I am looking at in this very Chamber.

Also, I thank all of those who currently are in active service in our military protecting our interests here at home and around the globe.

**CELEBRATING FLAG DAY**

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, today is Flag Day, of course, and a day to honor the symbol of our Nation, a symbol of our independence and a symbol of American ideals.

Historically, the idea of celebrating an annual holiday honoring the United States flag and the anniversary of the official adoption of "The Stars and Stripes" is believed to have first originated in 1885 by a school teacher in Wisconsin.

In the years following, the tradition grew; and in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson established Flag Day by a proclamation.

Over 3 decades later, President Truman would sign an Act of Congress officially designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day.

I, like many Americans, look at our flag and see our history, our triumphs; and most importantly, I see our future.

Today is a day to unite to pay tribute to the symbol which has grown with our country and represented our Nation's ideas since it first flew as "The Stars and Stripes" in 1777.

On this day, I am proud to honor our flag and all that it represents.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF TROY**

(Mr. McNULTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, on this Flag Day 2000, I rise to salute and pay tribute to the people of Troy and surrounding areas for the wonderful display of patriotism which I witnessed over this past weekend. On Sunday, tens of thousands of people from Troy and surrounding areas came together to celebrate the fact that we live in the freest and most open democracy on the face of the Earth.

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at any time for a look at the food banks and soup kitchens filled with senior citizens, children, American veterans, and working families.

Hunger is a fact. It is the underbelly of our booming economy. You can choose not to look at it; but it is real, and it is ugly. It plagues 26 million of our fellow Americans each year. Please come take a look.

**ANNUAL NATIONAL COMMEMORATION OF ANDREA DONNELLY-ROCK**

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Andrea Donnelly-Rock, a teacher, and to offer my prayers for their comfort and peace.

I am a mother, and I have been a teacher. I know, in my heart, that no parent should have to suffer the loss of a child, especially a teacher. And it is especially tragic when that teacher is 24 years old. I believe that this Nation should give its respect to the family and friends of Andrea Donnelly-Rock and to all people who have lost loved ones.

**MOURNING CHILD VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE**

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, today the world awaits the result of the show trial of 13 Jewish hostages in Iran. They have been held for over a year simply because they are Jewish. Without evidence, without a chance to confront their accusers, without lawyers of their own choosing, these 13 hostages have been subjected to a kangaroo court.

But Iran's new so-called moderate government is also on trial here. If Iran does not free these hostages, and soon, it should be a clear sign that that country has not changed its stripes.

Our response? Well, we should offer no more favorable trade agreements, such as the ones we did for rugs and pistachios recently. We should offer no more IMF or World Bank loans.

The fate of these 13 Iranian Jewish hostages should be our litmus test of Iran's new-found moderation. The world, Mr. Speaker, is watching.

**MOURNING CHILD VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE**

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to salute the flag for the flag symbolizes freedom. But it should also symbolize safety.

This evening I will mourn the thousands upon thousands of children who die every day at the hand of gun violence. It is time that we recognize as Americans that we can pass real gun safety legislation in this House and in the Senate, if it would adhere to the values of this Nation.

How tragic it is in my own community, Sunday, June 11, that a 14-year-old girl shot and killed a 16-year-old boy; to find out that a 3-year-old accidentally shot himself in the foot with his father's gun; or a 10-year-old girl who was shot and killed in a linen closet; that on June 8, a 12-year-old middle school student in Chesapeake, Virginia, was charged after he brought a gun to school; that a 13-year-old shot a teacher; that a 6-year-old shot another 13-year-old; and that the overall rate of firearm deaths for children younger than 15 years of age is 12 times greater than the other 25 industrialized nations.

How much longer will we mourn? It is time now to stand up for our children and pass real gun safety legislation.

**CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 761, ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT**

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I