

CAROLYN B. MALONEY
12TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

2308 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3212
(202) 225-7944

COMMITTEES:
FINANCIAL SERVICES
GOVERNMENT REFORM

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
[SENIOR HOUSE DEMOCRAT]



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3212

DISTRICT OFFICES:
 1651 THIRD AVENUE
SUITE 311
NEW YORK, NY 10128
(212) 860-0606

 31-19 NEWTOWN AVENUE
ASTORIA, NY 11102
(718) 932-1804

 619 LORIMER STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11211
(718) 349-5972

WEBSITE: www.house.gov/maloney

February 10, 2015

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

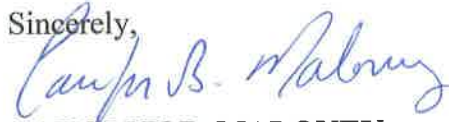
I am writing to convey my strong support for the Siblings Day Foundation's (SDF) proposal to establish a National Siblings Day on April 10th. Just as Mother's Day and Father's Day honor and commemorate mothers and fathers, Siblings Day would be a celebration to honor and commemorate our brothers and sisters. In 1998 SDF was founded by Ms. Claudia Evert, who lives in the congressional district that I represent, to honor the significance of the family bond among siblings. Ms. Evert lost both of her siblings at tragically young ages, which gave her an extra impetus to urge people to value those irreplaceable family connections.

A National Siblings Day would commemorate siblings whom we have lost, and celebrate our living brothers and sisters and the crucial guidance, love, and support they provide us. The relationship between siblings is often the longest and strongest among family ties. Our brothers and sisters are our first friends and share our earliest life experiences. As we grow older, they remain our closest advisors, confidants, and companions.

Siblings Day is gaining support around the country. According to the SDF, 85 governors of 49 states, including six former governors who became White House cabinet members, the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy, and television personalities Oprah Winfrey and Khloe Kardashian, have recognized Siblings Day on April 10th. Dozens of independent websites, newspapers and bloggers make reference to April 10th as National Siblings Day. Baylor University gave out National Siblings Day T-shirts. Holiday card manufacturers are offering Siblings Day greeting cards. Former Presidents Bill Clinton in 2000 and George W. Bush in 2008 sent letters of greetings to American citizens observing Siblings Day. Siblings Day has sparked much conversation on social media websites, and in 2013, Facebook declared April 10th National Siblings Day, inspiring 1.5 million visitors to go to the SDF website, one million tags on Instagram and more than 390,000 YouTube video submissions. Last year, your wife First Lady Michelle Obama, posted a childhood photo of herself with her brother in recognition of Siblings Day.

For all of the foregoing reasons, I am pleased to support Ms. Evert's request for a Presidential Proclamation proclaiming April 10th as National Siblings Day. I understand that Ms. Evert has requested a meeting to meet with Ms. Valerie Jarrett, and I would like to extend my support of a scheduled meeting between Ms. Evert and a member of your staff to discuss making Siblings Day a National Holiday. Thank you very much for your consideration of this request. Should you have any questions, please contact Tricia Shimamura of my staff at (212) 860-0606.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carolyn B. Maloney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

CBM/lb

Cc: Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor to the President