

By: Branch

H.R. No. 2979

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison served her fellow  
2 Texans with tremendous skill and dedication as a United States  
3 senator for nearly two decades; and

4           WHEREAS, Senator Hutchison won a special election in 1993 to  
5 become the first female senator from the Lone Star State, as well as  
6 the first Republican to hold that seat since 1875; she was reelected  
7 three times, and during her distinguished tenure, she worked  
8 tirelessly to protect military bases and was an effective champion  
9 of service members, veterans, and their families; through the  
10 years, she provided staunch support for federal projects that  
11 contributed significantly to the Texas economy, and she secured  
12 federal aid and resources in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and  
13 Rita, including millions of dollars in reimbursement for the  
14 state's costs in educating and housing evacuees; and

15           WHEREAS, This dynamic lawmaker rose to become the highest  
16 ranking Republican woman in Congress, and she served as the ranking  
17 member on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
18 Transportation as well as on the Appropriations Subcommittee for  
19 Commerce, Justice, and Science; she was also chair of the Military  
20 Construction Appropriations Subcommittee and a member of the  
21 Defense Appropriations Subcommittee; a prominent member of her  
22 party, she held such leadership roles as chair of the Republican  
23 Policy Committee, vice chair of the Republican Conference, and  
24 deputy permanent chair of the 2005 Republican National Convention;

1 and

2           WHEREAS, Previously, Senator Hutchison served the public as a  
3 member of the Texas House of Representatives and as state  
4 treasurer, and she was vice chair of the National Transportation  
5 Safety Board; her extensive private-sector experience includes  
6 positions as senior vice president and general counsel of Republic  
7 Bank Corporation in Texas, as a cofounder of Fidelity National Bank  
8 of Dallas, and as the owner of a candy manufacturing company; born  
9 in Galveston, she completed her bachelor's degree and law degree at  
10 The University of Texas at Austin; when she found the doors of large  
11 Houston law firms closed to female attorneys, she sought employment  
12 as a television reporter, and the experience she gained in covering  
13 politics gave her the knowledge and confidence to run for office;  
14 and

15           WHEREAS, Senator Hutchison retired from government in 2013,  
16 and today she is senior counsel at the Dallas firm of Bracewell &  
17 Giuliani, representing clients in banking, energy, transportation,  
18 telecommunications, and public policy; in addition, she is the  
19 author of three books on heroic American women, the most recent of  
20 which is *Unflinching Courage: Pioneering Women Who Shaped Texas*;  
21 and

22           WHEREAS, Named one of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women by  
23 *Forbes Magazine* in 2005, Senator Hutchison has received a host of  
24 honors, among them the Outstanding Legislator Award from the  
25 Association of the United States Army, the Spirit of Enterprise  
26 Award from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the National  
27 Commander's Distinguished Public Service Award from the American

1 Legion; and

2           WHEREAS, Kay Bailey Hutchison has contributed immeasurably  
3 to her state and her nation through her exceptional accomplishments  
4 in public office, and her legacy will be a continuing source of  
5 inspiration for aspiring leaders for many years to come; now,  
6 therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
8 Legislature hereby commend Kay Bailey Hutchison for her outstanding  
9 service as a member of the United States Senate and extend to her  
10 sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it  
11 further

12           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for Senator Hutchison as an expression of high regard by  
14 the Texas House of Representatives.