

PATRICIA CLARK BOSTON AIR ROUTE TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1092) to designate the air route traffic control center located in Nashua, New Hampshire, as the "Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1092

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF PATRICIA CLARK BOSTON AIR ROUTE TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The air route traffic control center located in Nashua, New Hampshire, and any successor air route traffic control center at that location, shall be known and designated as the "Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the air route traffic control center referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 1092.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This bill honors the work and commitment of Mrs. Patricia Clark for her 60 years of Federal service.

Mrs. Clark began working at Boston Center in Nashua, New Hampshire, in 1963 when it first opened, and has worked there ever since. In her years at Boston Center, Mrs. Clark has never taken annual or sick leave. According to her colleagues, Mrs. Clark's dedication to her job is as impressive as her length of service to the FAA.

To recognize her dedication, Mrs. Clark's colleagues decided that it was appropriate to celebrate Boston Center's 50th anniversary by renaming it in her honor. The dedication and hard work of Federal employees like Mrs. Clark should not be overlooked. I voice my support and encourage my colleagues to support this bill, which recognizes the work of an exemplary Federal employee.

I want to clarify that, while honoring Mrs. Clark, this bill does not require any funding for the renaming of the Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 1092, to designate the air route traffic control center located in Nashua, New Hampshire, as the "Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center." The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure unanimously reported this bill by voice vote just last month.

Mrs. Clark has worked at the Nashua center since it opened on March 31, 1963, and she has provided more than 50 years of government service. Mrs. Clark does administrative work at the center, including payroll, mail processing, and travel arrangements, and she has not taken a single sick day in her long career. Mrs. Clark's managers and colleagues at the Federal Aviation Administration initiated the idea of naming the facility to honor her for her valued service.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important bill, introduced by the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER) and other members of the New Hampshire delegation. This bill is a companion bill to S. 540, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent earlier this year.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1092, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER), for introducing this piece of legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER).

Ms. KUSTER. Thank you, Mrs. BUSTOS, for yielding.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1092, which is a bill that I introduced with Congresswoman SHEA-PORTER, to rename the air route traffic control center in Nashua, New Hampshire, after Patricia Clark, an exemplary Federal employee.

I want to thank Senator SHAHEEN and Senator AYOTTE for leading this legislation and ensuring its swift passage through the other body. I also thank Chairman SHUSTER, Ranking Member RAHALL and their hardworking staffs for passing this bill through the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and bringing it to the floor today.

The Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center was built 50 years ago as part of a network of 20 centers that guide commercial air traffic in our Nation. The center is staffed by a dedicated team, which ensures the safety of our skies and of the aircraft that travel through them; but while much has changed in the 50 years since the center was opened, one thing has remained constant—Patty Clark.

Patty started work at the Boston Center the day after it opened, and since that time she has been the gold

standard for Federal employees. Patty does administrative work, including payroll, travel arrangements, and managing the phones, and as you've heard today, over these past 50 years, she has never once taken a sick day.

Patty is beloved by her colleagues for her dedication and her positive attitude. To quote one of her colleagues, she is simply the "cream of the crop." So, as the 50th anniversary of the Boston Center approached earlier this year, management and workers got together at the center and decided that the only way to appropriately mark this extraordinary milestone was to honor the woman who had been through it all.

This is no cost, bipartisan legislation that will recognize the dedication of an incredible woman who has served our Nation for 50 years. I urge my colleagues to join me and the entire New Hampshire congressional delegation in honoring Patty Clark by supporting H.R. 1092.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BUSTOS. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally thank Mrs. Clark for all her years of dedicated service. This is truly an honor—benefiting a Federal employee of her high caliber. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1092.

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. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1740

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON SPOUSAL IRA

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2289) to rename section 219(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as the Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2289

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON SPOUSAL IRA.

The heading of subsection (c) of section 219 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is

amended by striking "SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN MARRIED INDIVIDUALS" and inserting "KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON SPOUSAL IRA".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today we are considering legislation to rename the Spousal IRA the "Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA," and I want to thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle for cosponsoring this bill.

Mr. Speaker, a fellow Texan, an extraordinary woman and the first Texas female United States Senator, Kay Bailey Hutchison established during her time in the Senate a long and distinguished record of service to the great people of Texas and to Americans across our Nation. A fitting example of the Senator's service is her successful effort to help families save for retirement.

Back in 1993, Senator Hutchison first led the effort to change an unfair tax rule that limited the ability of homemakers to fully contribute to their own personal retirement accounts known as IRAs. At that time, homemakers could only put aside \$250 in an IRA as opposed to \$2,000, the maximum allowed for the working spouse. In response, Senator Hutchison introduced legislation allowing homemakers to fully contribute to their own accounts.

In 1996, Congress passed legislation that included the Senator's proposal to do just that. As a result, homemakers are no longer penalized for undertaking the important work of raising a family when it comes to saving for retirement. As the Senator said back in 1996:

There is no question in my mind that the work done inside the home is as much a part of the American family, if not more important to the American family, than the work done outside the home.

I can't think of a better way to recognize the now former Senator's efforts to make it easier for families to achieve retirement security than by renaming the Spousal IRA the "Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleague from Dallas, Texas (Mr. JOHNSON) for his leadership on this matter.

This spring in another part of Texas in San Antonio, with the committed leadership of Katy Flato, we had our first-ever Bexar County edition of the Texas Book Festival. Among the many authors who were celebrated there, an active presence to make this book festival a success, was our United States Senator and New York Times best-selling author, Kay Bailey Hutchison, who presented her new book, "Unflinching Courage: Pioneering Women Who Shaped Texas."

In this book, she takes a look at other women who have made Texas and this Nation what it is today. She tells some incredible stories from Jane Long, who's often called the Mother of Texas, and her delivery of her own baby on a beach, to the tale of Margaret Houston, the wife of the hero of Texas, Sam Houston, who reportedly had an operation to remove a tumor, bit on a silver coin, survived and had six more children.

Senator Hutchison was a pioneer in her own right. She graduated, as my colleague said, from the University of Texas School of Law in 1967 when the number of women in the graduating class was in single digits.

As the first Republican woman to be elected to the Texas House of Representatives, she served there and in the Texas Constitutional Convention where I had an opportunity to get to know her as another member of that convention, as well as her husband, Ray Hutchison, who served with distinction in the House of Representatives. She is to date our only woman to have represented Texas in the United States Senate.

We're grateful for her long service, her willingness to work with Members of both parties, and in San Antonio we're particularly grateful, as well, for her service as it relates to the San Antonio River and the expansion of the River Walk.

When she first came to the Senate in 1993, she began working on legislation to help women take charge of their own futures, and one part of that is the Spousal IRA. The bill was the product of her own personal experience. When she married Ray, she learned that she could no longer contribute \$2,000 to her retirement annually, but was limited to \$250.

Early on, she approached Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI about becoming the Democratic lead sponsor on the Spousal IRA bill. Together, Senator Hutchison, working in a bipartisan manner with Senator MIKULSKI, got the legislation approved as a part of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996.

The Spousal IRA that became law is an important tax benefit for stay-at-home spouses. It allows the stay-at-home spouse to make a full IRA contribution to the stay-at-home spouse's own IRA, even if a husband or wife has made a full contribution to the working spouse's IRA.

At a time when too many people are not saving enough to provide a secure

requirement, this measure helps many contribute to ensure that they have a full retirement. Under the rules in place before, that limitation would have been a very nominal \$250. Under Senator Hutchison's legislation, the contribution can now go up to \$5,500, a big contribution, each year.

So I think it's very appropriate that we honor Senator Hutchison here with the naming that is proposed.

I reserve the balance of my time at this point.

□ 1750

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY), a member of the Ways and Means Committee and chairman of the Subcommittee on Health.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Chairman JOHNSON, thank you for your leadership on this issue and, Mr. DOGGETT, for your eloquent support.

When American families are fortunate enough to have children, they often face an important decision: Can they afford to have one parent stay at home to care for the children or is it financially necessary that both parents continue to work outside the home? If they choose to have one parent stay home, it is often a great financial sacrifice that affects not only their day-to-day living but their retirement security as well.

I believe the government should support their decision by encouraging them to save for their retirement by using the Spousal IRA tax provision which became law in 1996. This provision brings a measure of equality to the Code and allows parents to contribute to IRA retirement accounts whether they work outside the home or not.

While the Spousal IRA provision was included in the Contract for America and the Contract with the American Family, it only exists today because of our dear friend and former Texas Senator, Kay Bailey Hutchison.

Years ago, she recognized the unfairness of the Tax Code to those moms and dads who chose to stay home with their children, even if it meant missing out on the usual tax incentives enjoyed by those with outside jobs who were putting money away in a traditional IRA as a nest egg. Well, stay-at-home parents didn't have that IRA option, so Senator Hutchison went to work to balance the scales a little for those parents.

I remember Senator Hutchison for years tirelessly crisscrossing the State of Texas and lobbying her colleagues in the House and the Senate for a spousal IRA because it was the right thing to do for our families and families across the country. She never stopped raising awareness of this inequity and never gave up. I think all of us would agree that "never giving up" is a Kay Bailey Hutchison hallmark.

She also turned her incredible energy to getting it passed in Congress. She

was finally and justifiably successful in 1996, working across the aisle with leaders like Dick Arme and the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Bill Archer; but also signed by and supported by President Clinton.

Since that time, millions of American children have benefited from their stay-at-home parents, and their parents have benefited from Senator Hutchison's magnificent work to bring some retirement fairness to these wonderful families.

Therefore, I join with my colleagues to urge them to vote in support of renaming the Spousal IRA section of the Tax Code the Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA. It is an honor much reserved for the one person most responsible for its existence.

Mr. DOGGETT. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. It is a pleasure to join my friends from Texas on the floor today to honor Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison and the work that she did with creating the Spousal IRA.

Look, back in the 1990s, I was just a regular guy practicing medicine back home in Texas. What did I know about this stuff? Well, not much. But what I did know was that for the 15 years that I had been in private practice, my wife and I had shared our contribution to our IRAs every year. That meant each of us was able to deposit \$1,100 every year into the IRA account.

Well, I've got to tell you, it's pretty frustrating to try to save for retirement when every year your contribution is limited to that rather austere amount. So it was a very big day, and I remember that day when we actually both were able to make the full contribution to our IRA accounts, and it was because of the hard work done by Senator Hutchison.

She never forgot her constituents back in Texas. She never forgot women—yes, women in the workforce, but also those women who were exercising their option to spend all of their energies raising their children and raising their families. It was a great day for Texas, for Texas constituents when that tax bill was passed, and we are very grateful to Senator Hutchison for her leadership. It is appropriate that we honor her tonight with the naming of the Spousal IRA in her honor.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, to close briefly, last fall Senator CORNYN hosted a memorable bipartisan dinner honoring Senator Hutchison appropriately in the LBJ Room here in the Capitol, where all of us who are gathered here today, and a number of our colleagues, joined in honoring Senator Hutchison. At about the same time, Senator MIKULSKI introduced a resolution in the Senate to accomplish the same objec-

tion as this resolution. I hope the Senate will act promptly to approve this legislation. It has strong bipartisan support because this is an important measure to ensure more retirement security provided by a Texas leader of which those of us of both parties can take pride.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. I want to thank my colleague, Mr. DOGGETT, for his words.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill in honor of Senator Hutchison's commonsense effort to make it easier for families to save for retirement.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of renaming the "Spousal IRA" so that it carries the name of its champion—my friend and fellow Texan—Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison.

This bill was a product of Senator Hutchison's personal experience before joining the Senate. After putting aside money for her retirement as a single working woman, Senator Hutchison found that she could only put aside \$250 in an IRA once she married her husband.

When Senator Hutchison was elected to the Senate in 1993, she led the effort to change this discriminatory part of our tax code, and worked to pass the "Spousal IRA".

Senator Hutchison has said that, over the course of her 19 years in the U.S. Senate, this law is the accomplishment she is most proud of. I think it is therefore fitting that we should amend the tax code so that women in America know that they're benefitting from the Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to support H.R. 2289, introduced by Representative SAM JOHNSON (R-TX).

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to rename the section heading of provisions relating to the individual retirement accounts (IRAs) of married individuals as the Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA.

Senator Hutchison, from Texas, along with Senator MIKULSKI, co-authored the now 15-year-old law that allows homemakers to make the same deductible contributions to their IRA as salaried workers. The Spousal IRA was one of Senator Hutchison's proudest achievements while in Congress.

I thank Senator Hutchison for her years of service to the U.S. Senate. I believe this is a fitting tribute for her championing of this issue. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2289 to honor Senator Hutchison.

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, it's a pleasure to recognize my colleague and friend, former Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, for her efforts to help women. Her many contributions include her success in changing federal law to help women save for retirement. Her efforts expanded the availability of Individual Retirement Accounts for women, regardless of their family or work status, to set aside money for retirement.

Senator Hutchison's success in changing the tax code to help stay-at-home spouses underscores the family values that are critical to our nation. Americans should not be limited by federal law when they work at home to raise children and help their families.

Senator Hutchison deserves recognition for her support of American families. I was a co-

sponsor of H.R. 2289, to rename section 219(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as the Kay Bailey Hutchison Spousal IRA. I applaud Senator Hutchison and thank her for the exceptional work she has done on behalf of the State of Texas.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2289.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARPER) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 2383, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 1092, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

STAN MUSIAL VETERANS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2383) to designate the new Interstate Route 70 bridge over the Mississippi River connecting St. Louis, Missouri, and southwestern Illinois as the "Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge", on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 395, nays 2, not voting 37, as follows: