



News release

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Bay Area Houston community supports Hutchison as Quasar Award honoree

BAY AREA HOUSTON, TEXAS – The Bay Area Houston community supports U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison for being honored with the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership’s prestigious 2011 Quasar Award for exceptional leadership in economic development to be presented during the organization’s Annual Quasar Award Banquet on Friday, Jan. 21, 2011, at the South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center in League City at 6:30 p.m.

The Quasar Award is presented each year to an outstanding individual who has contributed greatly to the economic wealth and diversity of the Bay Area Houston region. The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership leadership selected Senator Hutchison in acknowledgment of her successful campaign to get the Senate to pass the NASA authorization bill, which saved thousands of NASA jobs, and her strong leadership on behalf of Ellington.

Mike Coats, director of the NASA Johnson Space Center, said, “Senator Hutchison’s leadership has fostered an atmosphere of good government and open communication. She has helped usher in an unmatched era of cooperation that has benefited both NASA and the entire region. I join the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership in applauding her excellent work on behalf of the State of Texas and the nation’s space program. The Quasar Award is a much deserved tribute to her dedication.”

Senator Hutchison said, “I am honored to have been chosen as the 2011 recipient of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership’s Quasar Award. Working to protect the interests of small businesses in Texas has always been one of my top priorities, and I look forward to continuing to

work with the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and local business leaders to promote economic development in the community.”

Rep. Pete Olson said, “Senator Hutchison once again served the Houston region with distinction and her commitment to NASA is unquestioned. Her tenacity was instrumental in our battle to pass an authorization bill that provided the framework necessary for NASA to move forward to meet the goals set out by Congress. The Johnson Space Center’s impact to Houston is immense, and I look forward to working with her to ensure that it remains the home of America’s human space flight program.”

Senator Hutchison is the senior Republican on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Additionally, she serves on the Appropriations Committee, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Some of the awards and honors that Senator Hutchison has received include the Air Force Association Distinguished American Award, 2008, Association of the United States Army Outstanding Legislator Award, 2006, American Legion National Commander's Distinguished Public Service Award, 2006, and Forbes Magazine's 2005 World's 100 Most Powerful Women.

Senator Hutchison is the author of two books - bestseller, *Leading Ladies: American Trailblazers* in October 2007, *American Heroines: The Spirited Women Who Shaped Our Country* in 2004, and co-author with several colleagues on *Nine and Counting: the Women of the Senate* in June 2000. The senator lives in Dallas with her husband, Ray, and their two children, Bailey and Houston.

Houston Council Member Mike Sullivan said, “As the City of Houston council member responsible for JSC issues, it has been an honor to work with Senator Hutchison. She has been an effective champion for JSC issues, and I am proud to support her in those efforts. I measure an elected official’s effectiveness by their success, and the senator receives a ‘perfect 100’ on my scorecard.”

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The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership is a member-driven organization that provides the leadership to stimulate regional economic development and employment in southeast Texas. Its members include more than 260 investor companies, business professionals, local governments, and educational institutions encompassing 13 cities, Galveston and Harris counties, and the Port of Houston Authority. Visit www.bayareahouston.com.

Space Alliance Technology Outreach Program is administered by the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership. It is a State of Texas funded initiative designed to transfer the knowledge and technology of the U.S. Space Program to small businesses to solve technical challenges they are unable to solve themselves. Visit www.spacetechnologies.com/bahep.