

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7698

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

Received

AN ACT

To designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Ventura, California, as the “Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic”.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) As of January 2021, of the 1,255 health
4 care facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs,
5 two are named after women.

6 (2) Rosemary Ann Bryant was born on April 2,
7 1953, in Harlingen, Texas, to Captain Cecil Bryant
8 and Constance Boylan Bryant, a World War II Navy
9 nurse.

10 (3) Captain Mariner was the first woman to en-
11 roll in the aeronautics program at Purdue University
12 in 1971.

13 (4) Captain Mariner joined the Navy in 1973,
14 and after graduating from officer candidate school
15 that year, she became a member of the Navy's first
16 flight-training class for women.

17 (5) In 1974, Captain Mariner was one of six
18 women to earn her wings and in 1975 she became
19 the first female Naval aviator to fly a jet attack air-
20 craft.

21 (6) In July 1990, Captain Mariner was named
22 commander of Navy "Tactical Electronic Warfare
23 Squadron 34" at Naval Air Station Point Mugu in
24 Ventura County, California. The unit was 30 per-
25 cent female and made Captain Mariner the first
26 woman to command an operational air squadron,

1 even though women were still barred from flying
2 combat missions.

3 (7) Captain Mariner became a passionate advo-
4 cate for women in the military, leading the Women
5 Military Aviators and working with Congress and
6 the Department of Defense to lift restrictions bar-
7 ring women from flying in combat.

8 (8) Captain Mariner attended the National War
9 College in the District of Columbia, earning a mas-
10 ter's degree in national security strategy and served
11 on the staff of the Joint Chiefs at the Pentagon, and
12 a professor of joint military studies at the National
13 War College.

14 (9) Captain Mariner retired from the Navy in
15 1997, and moved to Tennessee with her husband
16 Commander Tommy Mariner and her daughter
17 Emmalee.

18 (10) During her Naval career Captain Mariner
19 logged 17 landings on aircraft carriers and more
20 than 3500 flight hours in 15 different aircraft.

21 (11) In retirement, Captain Mariner continued
22 her service in her community as a resident scholar
23 in the University of Tennessee's Center for the
24 Study of War and Society, and taught military his-
25 tory in UT's history department for 15 years.

1 (12) Captain Mariner passed away from ovarian
2 cancer on January 24, 2019, in Knoxville, Ten-
3 nessee.

4 (13) In honor of Captain Mariner, the United
5 States Navy conducted its first all-female flyover at
6 the funeral service for Captain Mariner on Saturday,
7 February 2, 2019, in Maynardville, Tennessee.

8 (14) In July 2021, a panel of Ventura County
9 members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and mili-
10 tary spouses recommended that the Ventura Medical
11 Center be named in honor of Captain Rosemary
12 Bryant Mariner.

13 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF CAPTAIN ROSEMARY BRYANT**
14 **MARINER OUTPATIENT CLINIC.**

15 (a) DESIGNATION.—The outpatient clinic of the De-
16 partment of Veterans Affairs in Ventura, California, shall
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and
18 designated as the “Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner
19 Outpatient Clinic”.

20 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
21 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
22 States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall

- 1 be deemed to be a reference to the “Captain Rosemary
- 2 Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic”.

Passed the House of Representatives September 19,
2022.

Attest:

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,

Clerk.