

**The Honorable Barbara Bailey Kennelly**  
U.S. Representative of Connecticut (1982–1999)

**Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress**

**Accepted by Ways and Means**

Representative Kennelly remembers building relationships with Members on the Ways and Means Committee.

*Interview recorded September 9, 2015*

Well, my first couple of years on Ways and Means were interesting and I can't say they didn't put me through the hoops. And every once in a while I'll mention, say to Tom Downey, "Do you know what you did to me?" And there were just fun things, you know, and he said, "I never did that." I go, "Oh yes, you did." But after a year or so I never let it bother me, never. I wasn't one of those "Oh, poor me." I loved being on the committee. So, they accepted me and I played golf. And I had not played as much because my husband didn't play. But when I got down there I knew when we were doing tax reform, I knew, take out the golf clubs, because they stayed on weekends because we worked, and worked. And I'd play golf and that helped me, very definitely.