



**Florida House of Representatives**  
**Kevin C. Ambler**  
*Representative, District 47*

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**Representative Ambler receives assisted living “2009 Legislator of the Year Award” from The Florida Assisted Living Association**

*“...he has earned our respect in the assisted living community.”*

**TAMPA, FL** – Representative Kevin Ambler (R-Tampa) received the Legislator of the Year Award from the Florida Assisted Living Association (FALA) on August 20, 2009, at the FALA Annual Conference & Trade Show at the Sanibel Harbour Resort in Fort Myers, Florida.

The Florida Assisted Living Association “is a strong, unified, professional organization representing the owners and operators of assisted living communities.” FALA promotes “excellence in assisted living” in the state of Florida, and FALA is also “the largest state association representing assisted living facilities and is affiliated with not one, but two national associations, the Assisted Living Federation of America and the American Seniors Housing Association.”

FALA’s Past President, Mr. Larry Sherberg, honored him with an award that stated, “Representative Kevin Ambler is a remarkable and unique individual, as he was someone who truly took the time to understand the topic of assisted living by visiting facilities and listening to our issues. He really cared for the residents. Any ordinary person can be given a title, but we are presenting this award to Representative Ambler, because he has earned our respect in the assisted living community.”

Upon receiving the award, Representative Ambler replied that, “Our goal was to provide as many resources as possible to enable our elderly the means to preserve their quality of life by helping them to receive needed services while still living in their own homes. This ‘nursing home diversion’ program is a highly effective means of providing care at a two-thirds less cost than with nursing home care. More importantly, it allows these seniors and disabled citizens to maintain the independence of living on their own by using medical case managers who assist in getting them the medical services they need, including the transportation to get there.” Ambler, who served this past year as Health Appropriations Chairman for the Florida House of Representatives, ended by saying that, “The success of this program and the exceptional cost savings the state realizes with each dollar spent, is the reason that I actually fought hard to increase the number of nursing home diversion slots in this year’s budget by 2200 in the face of one of the worst budget deficits in our state’s history.”

Representative Kevin Ambler has been proudly serving the people of the Northwest Hillsborough County area for over 7 years. Recently, he has been named the “2009 Legislator of the Year” by a number of other health care related organizations including: the Association of Florida Public Hospitals, the Safety Net Hospital Alliance of Florida, the Florida Hospital Association, the Florida Health Care Association, the Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities and the Florida Pharmacy Association.

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