



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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 28, 2009

**CONTACT: AMBER SMITH**  
PHONE: (813) 558-1333



**Representative Kevin Ambler Receives the Florida Health Care Association  
“2009 Legislator of the Year Award”**

**TAMPA, FL**—Representative Kevin Ambler (R-Lutz) was presented with the 2009 Florida Health Care Association Legislator of the Year Award at the Association’s Annual Convention held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. This distinguished award was presented by Debbie Franklin, President of the FHCA from Brandon, FL and Scott Allen, Legislative Chair of the FHCA, from Tampa, FL. The Florida Health Care Association is Florida’s first and largest advocacy organization for long term care providers and the elderly that they serve. For over 50 years, this dynamic organization has remained dedicated to providing the highest quality care for chronically ill, disabled and elderly individuals. The FHCA has risen to the challenge of serving the nation’s most elder-rich state by continually helping nursing homes to improve their performance and quality of life for those in their care.

The “Legislator of the Year Award” specifically recognized Representative Ambler’s outstanding and continuous support of Florida’s frail and elderly seniors during the 2009 Legislative Session. "I am deeply honored to have had the opportunity this past year to work so closely with the leaders of the Florida Health Care Association. This group of dedicated professionals is definitely passionate in their commitment to helping our most frail and elderly seniors, and their families, who chose to call these extended care facilities "home," said Representative Ambler who served as Health Appropriations Chairman for the Florida House of Representatives.

In describing the challenges that surrounded the budgeting process, Rep. Ambler said that, "despite the largest budget deficit in Florida's history, we maintained our commitment to make the care for these vulnerable citizens our top priority. In the end, we were able to prevent any cuts from being imposed which would have directly affected the quality of patient care. In fact, we actually were able to increase the number of hours per patient per day that nurses must spend with each patient in a nursing home. Two years ago we were at the bottom of the nation in the amount of time nurses spent with patients. Now, Florida will lead the nation with some of the highest standards of any state. That's something for all of us to be proud of."

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

###