

2 0 1 1 *Champions for Business*



The *Champion for Business* award symbolizes our gratitude for extraordinary efforts by legislators on behalf of the business community.

For 36 years, Associated Industries of Florida (AIF) has published *Voting Records*, an analysis of every vote cast by every legislator on every major business issue. The votes provide tangible evidence of whether or not a legislator upholds the ability of Florida companies to operate free of overly burdensome state regulation and taxation. It is a valuable tool used by AIF and the business community to determine which legislators running for re-election deserve our support. Yet, voting records only tell part of the story.

AIF instituted the *Champion for Business* award in 2003 to acknowledge lawmakers who do more than vote for business and provide leadership on key legislation. A *Champion for Business* is a legislator who takes risks for his or her belief in the free-enterprise system, who defies the status quo when it is harmful to our state's competitive climate, and who faces down opponents to the growing prosperity of Florida's citizens.

The *Champion for Business* is evidence that, in our efforts to let our members and their legislators know who has been good for business and who has been bad, we leave no stone unturned.

This year, AIF selected those legislators who we deem are strong and forceful advocates for the business community. In our collective wisdom, these 18 legislators are the epitome of what a *Champion for Business* should be. Whether they proposed an important bill, authored a key amendment, or toiled behind the scenes, these legislators are the ones who made a difference this session. In addition, AIF is proud to present *Council Awards* to a group of policy-makers who exhibited great leadership on behalf of AIF's Council system.

Throughout the 60 days of lawmaking, these were the senators and representatives we turned to when we needed someone on whom we could depend.



ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA
The Voice of Florida Business Since 1920

2 0 1 1 *Champions for Business*

Throughout the 60 days of lawmaking, these were the leaders we turned to when we needed someone we could depend upon.



2011 CFB Winner

Sen. Joe Negron (R-Palm City) is receiving his second *AIF Champion for Business Award*. As Chairman of the powerful Senate Budget Subcommittee

on Health and Human Services Appropriations, Sen. Negron was the principal negotiator behind the sweeping Medicaid reform package (**HB 7107**) passed by the Florida Legislature this past session. As a top priority for the business community, Medicaid reform will establish a more coordinated care model that will not only ensure cost-efficient quality care to our neediest residents, but will provide the state more control over the dollars it spends on this program. For years this program has grown exponentially, which has taken resources from other important areas of public policy. AIF has been a long-time supporter of Medicaid reform, and we are deeply thankful for Sen. Negron's leadership on this issue. For this we are proud to recognize Sen. Negron as a Champion for Business.



2011 CFB Winner

Sen. Garrett Richter (R-Naples) is receiving his third *AIF Champion for Business Award*. This year Sen. Richter once again demonstrated why he is considered

one of the go-to-members of the Florida Legislature when vital pro-business legislation needs to be passed. Sen. Richter sponsored one of the top legal reform bills of the 2011 legislative session – **SB 142** Relating to Crashworthiness. Prior

to the passage of **SB 142**, Florida was the only state in the nation that prohibited the introduction of any evidence relating to a driver's condition at the time of an accident, when that driver sued an auto manufacturer over the "crashworthiness" of the vehicle. For his sponsorship of this AIF priority and his willingness to tackle the tough issues, AIF is proud to recognize Sen. Garrett Richter as a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Sen. David Simmons (R-Altamonte Springs) is receiving his first *AIF Champion for Business Award*.

With his return to the Florida Legislature as a member of the Senate, Sen. Simmons continues to provide strong support for the issues most important to employers and the business community. Sen. Simmons is being recognized for his sponsorship of legislation providing greater flexibility to school districts needing to comply with the 2002 Class Size Amendment. His bill (**SB 1466**) expands the list of core-curricula courses that are exempt from the Class Size requirements and allows for districts to submit their official student census only once per year. These reforms will go a long way in helping to address the budgetary challenges created by the Class Size amendment. For his strong commitment to Florida's education system, we are proud to distinguish Sen. David Simmons as a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Sen. Jeremy Ring (D-Margate) is receiving his second *AIF Champion for Business Award*. Sen. Ring continues to be a strong proponent of economic devel-

opment in Florida and an advocate for transforming Florida's economy. This year Sen. Ring is being recognized for his leadership on passage of legislation that enacts major changes in Florida's corporate income tax structure. Known as the Single Sales Factor, this legislation creates an optional mechanism for eligible corporations to use a new method to calculate Florida income for state corporate income tax purposes. With passage of this legislation, companies which invest at least \$250 million in capital infrastructure can benefit from this new formula. Thanks to Sen. Ring's work on this issue, Florida will now be able to compete with other states that currently provide companies this incentive. For this reason, AIF is proud to call Sen. Jeremy Ring a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Sen. Elyn Bogdanoff (R-Ft. Lauderdale) is receiving her first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. As a new member of the Florida Senate, Sen. Bogdanoff has

quickly positioned herself as a leader on issues important to the business community. Sen. Bogdanoff is Chair of the

Whether they proposed an imp

influential Budget Subcommittee on Finance & Tax where she presides over a number of important business issues. AIF is recognizing Sen. Bogdanoff this year for her sponsorship of legislation dealing with Judgment Interest – **SB 866** – which addresses the calculation methodology for judgment interest. This issue is important to Florida businesses because the current methods create situations where exorbitant and inequitable interest rates result in the over-compensation of plaintiffs, discourage settlements, and hold the defendants financially liable for delays they do not cause. Thanks to Sen. Bogdanoff's leadership, the Legislature was able to revise current law to create a more balanced formula for applying interest to damage awards. For this reason, AIF is proud to call Sen. Elyn Bogdanoff a *Champion for Business*.



Sen. Jack Latvala (R-St. Petersburg) is receiving his first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. Sen. Latvala has returned to the Florida Senate and continues to be a

2011 CFB Winner
staunch supporter of issues important to Florida's employers. His leadership and vast experience in the legislative process made him an incredibly influential member of the Senate this legislative session. Sen. Latvala is being recognized for his sponsorship of pro-business legislation, including **SB 524**, which aims to reduce security credentialing requirements at our deep-water ports, and for his leadership in the fight against immigration reform legislation that would have been harmful to Florida's economic recovery. Sen. Latvala's understanding of the significant challenges facing small business owners presented by the proposed mandatory E-Verify requirements was instrumental in defeating this legislative proposal. For these reasons, AIF is proud

to call Sen. Jack Latvala a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Sen. Anitere Flores (R-Miami) is receiving her third *AIF Champion for Business Award*. As a new member of the Florida Senate, Sen. Flores continues to be one of the strongest advocates for Florida's business community. Sen. Flores picked up where she left off as a leader in the Florida House of Representatives and was named Chair of the powerful Senate Judiciary Committee. As Chair, Sen. Flores presided over a number of legal reform priorities for the business community. Most importantly, she oversaw the deliberations of the controversial immigration reform legislation (**SB 2040**) proposed this year. Throughout this very emotional and contentious debate, Sen. Flores allowed all sides of the issue to articulate their opinions in a fair and balanced environment. Sen. Flores was keenly aware of the economic implications of this proposal and repeatedly advocated on behalf of employers. For these reasons, AIF is proud to call Sen. Anitere Flores a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Sen. JD Alexander (R-Lake Wales) is receiving his second *AIF Champion for Business Award*. As the Senate Appropriations Chair, Sen. Alexander has had the difficult task of dealing with record budget shortfalls during a period of unprecedented economic downturn. In light of these challenges, Sen. Alexander has been able to reduce government spending and balance the budget without increases in taxes or fees for employers. In addition, Sen. Alexander managed

to score a perfect 100 percent on AIF's Voting Records; a feat not easily achieved in the Florida Senate. This year, Sen. Alexander also played a pivotal role in the defeat of immigration reform legislation that would have potentially required employers of all sizes to comply with the federal E-Verify employee verification system, which is riddled with errors and is a regulatory burden for business owners. Sen. Alexander's impassioned speech on the Senate floor helped shed light on the difficulties facing farmers who are trying to stay in business while dealing with workforce shortages, as well as the challenges facing migrant workers in our state. His debate helped carry the day for the opponents of this measure, including AIF and the business community. For these reasons AIF is proud to call Sen. JD Alexander a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Dorothy Hukill (R-Port Orange) is receiving her second *AIF Champion for Business Award*. As Chair of the House Economic Affairs Committee, Rep. Hukill was responsible for presiding over a number of subcommittees that handled important pro-business legislation. Rep. Hukill was instrumental in the passage of AIF priorities dealing with insurance issues, such as the major property insurance reform package (**SB 408**) and legislation that further expanded the de-regulation of commercial insurance lines in Florida (**HB 99**). Throughout the entire session, Rep. Hukill made sure that these bills were moving through the process and assisted the respective sponsors of these measures. For her steadfast support of the business community and the financial services industry in Florida, AIF is proud to once again designate Rep. Dorothy Hukill as a *Champion for Business*.

ortant bill, authored a key amendment, or toiled behind the scenes, these legislators are the ones who made a difference this session.

2 0 1 1 Champions for Business

(continued)



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. John Wood (R-Haines City) is receiving his first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. This year, Rep. Wood sponsored **HB 803** – the major property

insurance reform bill for the 2011 session. Recognizing the precarious position the state of Florida is in, due to our regulatory climate and our insistence on post-hurricane financing, Rep. Wood set out to enact many of the reforms passed during last year's legislative session that were subsequently vetoed by Governor Crist. Rep. Wood led the charge in the House and served as the principle negotiator with the Senate on a number of proposals designed to deal with many of the cost drivers in the property insurance system, including the reduction of time frames for filing claims, increasing solvency requirements for insurance companies, eliminating abuses by public adjusters and repealing the requirement that property replacement costs be paid up front and replaced with payment of actual cash value. These major reforms will hopefully go a long way in bringing back the private property insurance market to Florida. AIF is proud to distinguish Rep. John Wood as an *AIF Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Will Weatherford (R-Wesley Chapel) is receiving his second *AIF Champion for Business Award*. Very few members of the House played

a more important role in the success of the business community's agenda than Speaker-Designate Weatherford. Throughout the session, Speaker-Designate Weatherford communicated with AIF and its members and offered his assistance to get pro-business legislation moving through the committee process. As a staunch supporter of meaningful legal reform, Speaker-Designate Weatherford ensured that the top tort reform bills for the session passed out of the House, including legislation providing fairness in "crashworthiness" cases (**SB 142**) and curbing abuses in our state's medical malpractice system (**HB 479**). Speaker-Designate Weatherford represents exactly the type of pro-business legislator needed to get government out of the way of employers and create the best business climate for our state in order to spur economic activity and job creation. For this and many other reasons, AIF is proud to call Speaker-Designate Will Weatherford a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Jimmy Patronis (R-Panama City) is receiving his second *AIF Champion for Business Award*. This session Rep. Patronis undertook a major re-write of Florida's

environmental permitting laws (**HB 991**) in order to speed up the approval process and bring certainty to businesses dealing with state agencies. Rep. Patronis went out of his way to bring all stakeholders to the table and granted unprecedented access to all groups involved. Neverthe-

less, Rep. Patronis remained in tune with the needs of the business community by advocating for meaningful reductions in regulation and greater efficiencies in the system. Although his bill did not make it to the finish line, a number of the proposals included in his legislation made it into other pieces of legislation that were passed this session. Rep. Patronis was also the House sponsor of an important piece of legislation dealing with business-backed reforms to local government pension plans (**HB 7241**). For these reasons, AIF is proud to name Rep. Jimmy Patronis a *AIF Champion for Business Award*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Trudi Williams (R-Ft. Myers) is receiving her first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. Since her election to the Florida House, Rep. Williams has been the busi-

ness community's point person on issues surrounding Florida's water policy. With a professional background and expertise in the area of water policy, Rep. Williams has first-hand knowledge of the challenges facing Florida and its employers when it comes to water supply and water quality. As Chair of the House Select Committee on Water Policy, Rep. Williams led the charge on addressing water issues of great importance to Florida's employers. Perhaps of greatest importance to AIF and its members are Rep. Williams' efforts to address the negative consequences of federal water quality standards (known as Numeric Nutrient Criteria) being pushed on Florida by

The votes provide tangible evidence of whether or not a legislator upholds the ability of Florida companies to operate free of overly burdensome state regulation and taxation.

the federal government. Rep. Williams sponsored legislation (**HB 239**) that would have gone a long way in providing Florida with the tools to mitigate the costly implementation of these arbitrary water quality standards. For her efforts to bring awareness to water quality and supply issues, AIF is proud to call Rep. Trudi Williams a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Marlene O'Toole (R-The Villages) is receiving her first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. As the prime sponsor of AIF's top legal reform bill, **HB 201**, Rep.

O'Toole proved her mettle by going up against the powerful trial bar in a fight to bring fairness to the way juries in Florida hear "crashworthiness" cases. Prior to passage of this bill, Florida was the only state in the nation that prohibited the introduction of any evidence relating to the driver's condition at the time of an auto accident when that driver is suing an auto manufacturer over the "crashworthiness" of the vehicle. Despite amendments to alter the bill's intended purpose, Rep. O'Toole was successful in passing this legislation with the strongest protections for auto manufacturers. Correcting this inequity will now open the door to auto manufacturing companies that previously had not considered Florida as a base of operation. For her commitment to meaningful legal reform, AIF is proud to call Rep. Marlene O'Toole a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Dana Young (R-Tampa) is receiving her first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. Being a freshman in the House of Representatives typically does not

lend itself to passing major legislation, but this did not deter Rep. Young from filing one of the business community's

top priorities for the session. Rep. Young was the prime sponsor of **HB 283** — a bill designed to eliminate duplicative and costly security credentialing at our deep water ports. By passing this legislation, Florida is no longer at a competitive disadvantage with our neighboring states and we can best be prepared to meet the demands and opportunities presented by the expansion of the Panama Canal. For this reason, AIF is proud to call Rep. Dana Young a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Doug Holder (R-Sarasota) is receiving his first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. As Chairman of the House Economic Development and

Tourism Subcommittee, Rep. Holder was tasked with the difficult job of sponsoring major legislation dealing with Florida's unemployment compensation tax system (**HB 7005**). In a short period of time, Rep. Holder was able to learn the intricacies of this complex system in order to advocate for some important reforms to the way benefits are awarded. These reforms, a priority for AIF and its members, will go a long way in reducing the number of frivolous benefit claims that represent a drain in the system. During the final days of session, Rep. Holder was able to negotiate successfully on behalf of the House to keep many of the important reforms included in the legislation. For his leadership on this very difficult issue and his commitment to helping Florida employers, AIF is proud to call Rep. Doug Holder a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Chris Dorworth (R-Heathrow) is receiving his first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. Since his election to the House of Representatives, Rep. Dorworth has been a strong defender of the free enterprise

system in Florida and has filed a number of pro-business bills each year. This year, Rep. Dorworth sponsored **HJR 381**, a proposed constitutional amendment that, if approved by the voters during the next general election, will protect first time home-buyers from increased property taxes and will cap the annual change in assessed value for commercial property to five percent (a reduction from the current 10 percent). These important property tax changes will hopefully spur the housing market in Florida and provide commercial property owners with some much needed tax relief. For his commitment to improving Florida's business climate and his leadership on key business issues, AIF is proud to call Rep. Chris Dorworth a *Champion for Business*.



2011 CFB Winner

Rep. Ritch Workman (R-Melbourne) is receiving his first *AIF Champion for Business Award*. Rep. Workman tackled what is probably one of the most contentious

pieces of legislation during the 2011 session. AIF is recognizing Rep. Workman for his sponsorship of **HB 1405**, a bill aiming to reform Florida's state pension system. Florida's business community has long recognized the need for making improvements to the Florida Retirement System due to the growing liability of maintaining these state and local government plans. Under Rep. Workman's watch, state employees will now have some "skin in the game" by requiring a contribution of three percent of an employee's salary to fund their retirement plans. By bringing Florida's pension plan more in line with the private sector, the state will save over \$1 billion. Rep. Workman took on ferocious attacks from the unions, but never wavered and in the end was able to pass a package of bold reforms. For these reasons, AIF is proud to call Rep. Ritch Workman a *Champion for Business*.

Council Awards

Associated Industries of Florida is made up of a diverse group of businesses and associations that represent a wide array of economic sectors. AIF has organized a number of councils in order to best represent groups of employers that share a common subject area or interest. AIF's Council system has already produced excellent results, both legislatively and politically.

Florida Maritime Council



Rep. Joe Abruzzo

(D-Wellington) has always been a strong supporter of the business community, and this year he continued to prove his effectiveness as a legislator by filing and passing one of AIF's top priorities – **HB 215** Relating to Emergency Management. As a top priority for maritime companies located in hurricane-prone areas of the state, this legislation provides civil immunity to any person or business owner who gratuitously provides housing, shelter, food or certain other provisions to emergency workers in the wake of a declared disaster. This bill is important to community recovery and, most importantly, business continuity following catastrophic events. For his determination in passing this important piece of legislation, AIF's Florida Maritime Council is proud to call Rep. Joe Abruzzo its *Legislator of the Year*.

Environmental Sustainability Council



Rep. Ken Roberson

(R-Port Charlotte) sponsored and helped pass a critical rulemaking bill that will go a long way in addressing the regulatory needs of Florida's employers. **HB 993** includes a critical provision for the business community that was added late in the session, which shifts the burden of proof to the challenger instead of a developer or business owner when environmental harm is alleged. By successfully advocating for this change, Rep. Roberson has helped speed up the permitting process for business owners in Florida. For this reason, AIF's Environmental Sustainability Council would

like to honor Rep. Ken Roberson as its *Legislator of the Year*.

Financial Services Council



Rep. Brad Drake

(R-DeFuniak Springs) and Sen. Steve Oelrich (R-Gainesville) are being recognized for their sponsorship of legislation dealing with the de-regulation of commercial insurance in Florida (**HB 99** and **SB 178**). With resounding support from both sides of the aisle, Rep. Drake and Sen. Oelrich were able to pass one of AIF's top insurance priorities for the 2011 session. This legislation expands on similar legislation passed last year by allowing five new types of commercial insurance to be exempt from the Office of Insurance Regulation's (OIR) rate filing and approval process. This results in an exemption for over 80% of commercial rates in Florida. For their support of legislation that allows the free market, and not government, to dictate rates, AIF's Financial Services Council is proud to designate Rep. Brad Drake as its House Legislator of the Year and Sen. Steve Oelrich as its Senate *Legislator of the Year*.

Florida Development and Infrastructure Council



Rep. Gary Aubuchon

(R-Cape Coral) has been a steadfast supporter of affordable housing issues for the last several years. As a homebuilder and real estate broker, Rep. Aubuchon understands the importance of Florida's housing market and the role it plays in our state's economic recovery. This year, Rep. Aubuchon was finally able to pass legislation (**HB 639**) scrap-

ping the cap on the amount of documentary stamp revenue that goes into the State and Local Government Housing Trust Funds. This has been a goal for AIF and housing advocates for a number of years, since it is well known that housing dollars equal jobs in our economy. Very few sectors provide more impact on job creation than housing, and Rep. Aubuchon was a true champion on behalf of the business community on this issue. For this reason, AIF's Development and Infrastructure Council is proud to designate Rep. Gary Aubuchon as its House *Legislator of the Year*.

Florida Development and Infrastructure Council



Sen. Mike Bennett

(R-Bradenton) holds the distinction of being one of AIF's most awarded members of the Legislature, and this year he is being recognized once again for his leadership on growth management issues. Sen. Bennett was instrumental in the passage of one of the most sweeping reforms of Florida's growth management law. After considering recommendations from AIF members, Sen. Bennett put together a package of reforms (**SB 7207**) that will allow local governments to regain power over their planning efforts, streamline the process, and remove unworkable provisions that delay economic development. Florida's growth management laws had not been altered in over 25 years, and this set of changes was incredibly well received by members of the business community. It is without hesitation that AIF's Florida Development and Infrastructure Council designates Sen. Mike Bennett as its Senate *Legislator of the Year*.

Past Champions for Business & Council Award Winners

2010 Champions for Business

Speaker Larry Cretul – *Unemployment Compensation*
Rep. Dean Cannon – *Medicaid Reform*
Rep. Steve Crisafulli – *Economic Development/Aerospace*
Rep. Brad Drake – *Commercial Insurance*
Rep. Adam Hasner – *Unemployment Compensation*
Rep. Alan Hays – *Workers' Compensation*
Rep. Mike Horner – *Parental Waivers*
Rep. Ralph Poppell – *Dynamic Scoring*
Rep. Perry Thurston – *International Commercial Arbitration*
Rep. Will Weatherford – *Economic Development/Job Creation*
President Jeff Atwater – *Tort Reform*
Sen. Rudy Garcia – *Unemployment Compensation*
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – *Economic Development*
Sen. Garrett Richter – *Property Insurance*
Sen. John Thrasher – *Education Reform*
Sen. Thad Altman – *Aerospace Industry Relief*

2010 Council Legislator of the Year

Financial Services Council
Sen. Durell Peaden – *Commercial Insurance*
Rep. Bill Proctor – *Property Insurance*
Florida Maritime Council
Sen. Jeremy Ring – *Seaport Development*
Rep. Lake Ray – *Seaport Investment*
Florida Education, Economic, & Workforce Development Council
Rep. John Legg – *Teacher Accountability*
Sen. Nancy Detert – *Education Requirements*
Information Technology Council
Rep. Marlene O'Toole – *IT Contracting*
Florida Development & Infrastructure Council
Rep. Dorothy Hukill – *Growth Management/Economic Development*
Environmental Sustainability Council
Sen. Lee Constantine – *Water Policy*
Rep. Trudi Williams – *Recycling Incentives*

2009 Champions for Business

Rep. Dean Cannon – *Energy Legislation*
Rep. Anitere Flores – *Workers' Compensation*
Rep. Adam Hasner – *Elections*
Rep. Carlos Lopez-Cantera – *Property Taxes*
Rep. Jimmy Patronis – *Medicaid Reform*
Sen. Garrett Richter – *Workers' Compensation*
Sen. Mike Fasano – *Economic Development*
Sen. Chris Smith – *Public Notices*
Sen. Don Gaetz – *Low Income Pool (LIP) Transparency*

2009 Council Legislator of the Year

Financial Services Council
Sen. Mike Bennett – *Surplus Lines Insurance Taxation*
Rep. Bryan Nelson – *Property Insurance*
Rep. Pat Patterson – *Surplus Lines Insurance*
Florida Energy Council
Rep. Charles Van Zant – *Energy Legislation*
Rep. Seth McKeel – *Oil & Gas Exploration*
Florida Maritime Council
Sen. Dave Aronberg – *Seaport Security*
Florida Education, Economic, & Workforce Development Council
Rep. Erik Fresen – *High School Graduation Requirements*

2008 Champions for Business

Rep. Thad Altman – *Space Legislation*
Rep. Anitere Flores – *Education & Workforce Development*
Rep. Peter Nehr – *Property Tax Reform*
Rep. Ray Sansom – *Economic Development*
Rep. Baxter Troutman – *Metal Theft Legislation*
Sen. Mike Bennett – *Administrative Procedures Act*
Sen. Mike Fasano – *Transportation*
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – *Taxes*
Sen. Bill Posey – *Space Legislation*
Sen. Jeremy Ring – *Economic Development*

2008 Council Legislator of the Year

Financial Services Council
Rep. Dennis Ross – *Property Insurance*
Sen. Al Lawson – *Property Insurance*
Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink – *CatFund Reduction*
Florida Energy Council
Rep. Paige Kreegel – *Energy Legislation*
Florida Maritime Council
Rep. Kevin Ambler – *Seaport Security*

2007 Champions for Business

Rep. Trey Traviesa – *Telecommunications*
Rep. Charlie Dean – *Tort Reform*
Rep. Alan Hays – *Property Insurance*
Rep. Rich Glorioso – *Transportation*

2007 Council Legislator of the Year

Governmental Outsourcing Council
Rep. Aaron Bean – *Contracting Legislation*
Information Technology Council
Rep. Will Weatherford – *Enterprise Information Technology*
Sen. Al Lawson – *Enterprise Information Technology*

2006 Champions for Business

Governor Jeb Bush – *Support of Business Agenda*
Speaker Allan Bense – *Tort Reform/Repeal of Joint & Several*
Senate President Tom Lee – *Tort Reform/Repeal of Joint & Several*
Rep. Marty Bowen – *Agriculture*
Rep. Don Brown – *Tort Reform/Repeal of Joint & Several*
Rep. Fred Brummer – *Tax Reform*
Rep. Mike Davis – *Affordable Housing*
Rep. Adam Hasner – *Energy Legislation*
Rep. Matt Meadows – *Tax Incentives for Manufacturing*
Rep. Dennis Ross – *Property Insurance Reform*
Rep. Marco Rubio – *Private Property Rights*
Rep. Trey Traviesa – *Telecommunications*
Sen. Jeff Atwater – *Tax Relief for Businesses*
Sen. Mike Bennett – *Growth Management*
Sen. Jim King – *Economic Development*
Sen. Dan Webster – *Tort Reform*

2005 Champions for Business

Governor Jeb Bush – *Tort Reform*
Speaker Allan Bense – *Tort Reform*
Rep. Frank Attkisson – *Private Sector Protection*
Rep. Holly Benson – *Medicaid Reform Legislation*
Rep. Don Brown – *Tort Reform*
Rep. Fred Brummer – *Repeal of Intangible Tax*
Rep. Rene Garcia – *Medicaid Reform Legislation*
Rep. Joe Pickens – *Asbestos and Silica Reform Act*
Rep. Dennis Ross – *Property Insurance Reform*
Rep. Dwight Stansel – *Tort Reform*
Rep. John Stargel – *Tax Reform*
Sen. Jeff Atwater – *Tax Reform*
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – *Tax Reform*

2004 Champions for Business

Rep. Allan Bense – *Support of Business Agenda*
Rep. Kim Berfield – *Workers' Compensation Reform*
Rep. Mike Davis – *Growth Management*
Rep. Jeff Kottkamp – *Premises Liability Legislation*
Rep. Bruce Kyle – *Court Funding*
Rep. Joe Negron – *Court Funding*
Rep. John Stargel – *Tax Reform*
Sen. JD Alexander – *Workers' Compensation Reform*
Sen. Mike Bennett – *Growth Management*
Sen. Mike Haridopolos – *Tax Reform*
Sen. Rod Smith – *Court Funding*

2003 Champions for Business

Rep. Allan Bense – *Support of Business Agenda*
Rep. Dudley Goodlette – *Workers' Compensation*
Rep. Connie Mack – *Tort Reform*

The Champion for Business award symbolizes our gratitude for extraordinary efforts by legislators on behalf of the business community.