

Champion for Business



Allen Bense
HD-6
Panama City

The Champions of Business
are Legislators who display
exemplary efforts on behalf
of the business community.

Print this Section

The first ever "**Champion for Business**" Award goes to state Representative **Allan Bense (R-Panama) City** and no one could possibly typify the award more.

Bense is a very successful businessman who is basically a self-made man, as all who know him are aware. He is a behind-the-scenes consensus builder who, earlier this year, was tapped by Speaker Johnnie Byrd (R-Plant City) to "watch over" the bills coming from the committees system of the Florida House of Representatives to the floor.

As Speaker-Designate of the Florida House of Representatives, Bense has been given more responsibility than have his predecessors by a sitting Speaker. This is no doubt due to the loyalty, integrity, and fairness which are cornerstones of the way Bense conducts all his activities, and which are recognized by the Speaker and all others who are privileged to know and be around the Speaker-Designate.

AIF is most pleased that this first ever "**Champion of Business**" Award goes to an individual who himself is a role model for younger people who are considering a career in business. Bense is proof that people do not have to talk loud and call attention to themselves to be true leaders. Business leaders can thank Representative Bense for his leadership and efforts in the Florida House of Representatives by [sending him an e-mail](#).

Champion for Business



Dudley Goodlette (R)
HD-76
Naples

**The Champions for Business
are Legislators who display
exemplary efforts on behalf
of the business community.**

Print this Section

Representative Dudley Goodlette (R-Naples) is not only officially one of the most important members of the Leadership Team of the Florida House of Representatives as the Chairman of the House Policy Committee, but he is also the " go to man " when the Speaker of the House needs someone to take all the thoughts of committee chairmen and other members on major and key legislation and put them together into the House position to be brought to the floor for consideration by the full House. No member of the House has ever been given this type power and authority as long as any legislative observer can remember.

On two major issues of interest to the business community, workers' compensation and medical malpractice, Representative Goodlette has this session put together very strong reform proposals which will accrue to the definite benefit of the business community and Florida citizens as a whole. The capability of Representative Goodlette to bring together divergent parties to a common plan, which all can support, is indeed, like watching an artist work and has been very instrumental in the very smooth performance of the House this year on a number of major issues.

Earlier this year that Representative Goodlette mentioned as one of those on the short list to be considered to be appointed as Lieutenant Governor which further attests to the respect for his capabilities. Representative Goodlette's background as a military intelligence officer and as a successful practicing attorney obviously prepared him well to become the outstanding leader that he is today.

[E-Mail Representative Goodlette](#) and voice your appreciation to him for his efforts on behalf of the Florida business community

Champion for Business



Connie Mack (R)
HD-91
Ft. Lauderdale

The Champions for Business
are Legislators who display
exemplary efforts on behalf
of the business community.

Print this Section

Representative Connie Mack (R-Ft. Lauderdale) has certainly not been shy about his pro-business stand on issues during his short time in the Legislature. In fact, from the very day Representative Mack arrived in the State Capitol, he made known his very pro-business and free enterprise approach to all who cared to know.

This year Representative Mack has filed the most pro-business bill in the House of Representatives on the subject of workers' compensation, which is certainly one of the most critical issues facing the Legislature. In addition, Representative Mack has filed the major tort reform bill in the House.

During his first year, Representative Mack formed the Freedom Caucus, which is the most conservative, pro-business Caucus in the Legislature.

Associated Industries of Florida would like to publicly applaud Representative Mack for his efforts, and we encourage business leaders across the state to let him know that you sincerely appreciate his pro-business efforts on a daily basis in the Florida Legislature.

[E-Mail Rep. Mack](#) and voice your appreciation to him for his efforts on behalf of the Florida Business community