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VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS HONOR DELEGATE COX

Award applauds Cox's contributions to Virginia's economy

ROANOKE - The Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDA) has awarded Virginia Delegate Kirkland Cox its third annual Legislator of the Year Award. The award was created to honor legislators who serve as ambassadors for economic and community development in Virginia.

"Delegate Cox is a strong proponent of the Commonwealth's economic efforts," said VEDA President Matthew James. "We deeply appreciate his commitment to advancing economic opportunities in Virginia and look forward to working with him in the future."

In his nomination of Delegate Cox, Chesterfield County Economic Development Director Will Davis cited Cox's work on the legislation that provides incentive financing for major employment and investments projects to better position Virginia to make the infrastructure improvements necessary for job-creating economic development. "As a budget conferee, Delegate Cox has worked tirelessly to ensure that Virginia has funding in the Governor's Opportunity Fund," said Davis. "In an increasingly competitive environment he has endeavored to make Virginia the best place to live, work, and raise a family through his leadership efforts on a wide variety of issues important to his constituents."

VEDA's leadership put the Legislator of the Year Award in place to recognize public officials who not only support economic and community development, but are actively engaged in public policy efforts that advance economic prosperity in the Commonwealth. The 2009 award was announced at VEDA's Fall Conference in Roanoke and will be presented to Delegate Cox at the Association's Annual Meeting in December.

VEDA was formed in 1982 to provide educational, networking and technical assistance to increase the effectiveness of professionals practicing economic, industrial and community development in Virginia. VEDA provides input to help maintain the Commonwealth's leadership position in economic development, encourages continued education through state and national economic development organizations, and promotes professionalism and ethics within Virginia's economic development community. In its 27-year history, the organization has grown from less than 100 to more than 550 Virginia professionals.