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VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS HONOR DELEGATE BYRON
Award applauds Byron's contributions to Virginia's economy

WILLIAMSBURG – The Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDA) has awarded Virginia Delegate Kathy Byron its fourth 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 Byron is integral to economic development and job creation in Central Virginia and around the state,” said Virginia Region 2000 Economic Development Council Director and VEDA board member Bryan David. “Most recently she was pivotal in the creation, opening and now fully-occupied Center for Advanced Engineering and Research in Bedford County.”

Delegate Kathy Byron is currently serving her seventh term representing the 22nd District in the Virginia House of Delegates, including portions of Bedford, Campbell and Franklin Counties and the City of Lynchburg. Her work is focused on building infrastructure for economic vitality and new job creation in Virginia. She serves on various boards and organizations including the Virginia Workforce Council, Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission (where she serves as the Chairman of the Research and Development Committee), Unemployment Compensation Commission, American Legislative Exchange Council (where she serves on the Communication and Information Task Force), Joint Commission on Science and Technology, and the Manufacturing Development Commission. She is also the Chairperson of Governor McDonnell’s Broadband Advisory Council.

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 who are actively engaged in public policy efforts that advance economic prosperity in the Commonwealth. The 2011 award was announced at VEDA’s Annual Meeting in Williamsburg and will be presented to Delegate Byron at the Association’s Spring Conference in Williamsburg on March 23.

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 30-year history, the organization has grown from less than 100 to more than 550 economic development professionals.

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