



Message from ELC



Press Release June 18, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Association of Early Learning Coalitions Awards Florida Representative, Bill Galvano (Manatee and parts of Hillsborough) the *Early Learning Champion Award*

Tampa, Fla. June 18, 2009 — The Association of Early Learning Coalitions awarded Florida Representative, Bill Galvano, their "Early Learning Champion Award".

Representative Galvano, whose district covers Manatee and parts of Hillsborough counties, is a strong advocate for children, families and early learning issues. He has worked tirelessly this past Legislative Session to ensure more children would have access to health care, by assisting with passage of a bill to improve "Florida Kid Care", the state's children's health insurance act and in promoting the role of early learning in economic development.

Representative Galvano recognizes the role of early learning to ensuring the future economic success of Florida. He is a proponent of prevention services and recognizes the importance of providing high quality early learning to all children.

"Representative Galvano is a champion for children," says Susan Main, Chair of the Association of Early Learning Coalitions and Executive Director of the Early Learning Coalition of Duval. "By striving to address children's issues, especially in troubling economic times, Representative Galvano has proven himself as someone to be admired and emulated. The "Early Learning Champion Award" recognizes all the hard work Representative Galvano has done for families and children of this state."

The Association of Early Learning Coalitions is a non-profit organization comprised of leadership from the state's 31 separate Early Learning Coalitions that cover Florida's 67 counties. The Association aims to bring the coalitions and the state together to achieve an integrated, comprehensive system of early care and education across Florida by promoting services of the highest quality, advocating for all of Florida's children and their families, and supporting one another's professional growth.

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