



News Release From . . .

Congressman Rodney Alexander 5th Congressional District of Louisiana

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Alexander garners Spirit of Enterprise award

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, was awarded the "Spirit of Enterprise" award by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

According to the U.S. Chamber, eligibility for the "Spirit of Enterprise" award is based on how Members of Congress voted on key business issues as set out in its annual publication, *How They Voted*. Among the "key votes" counted by the Chamber in 2005 were passage of class action reform, comprehensive energy legislation, bankruptcy reform, the Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement, renewal of the federal terrorism insurance program, and a long-term highway bill.

Chamber key votes are recorded floor votes on issues established as priorities by the Chamber's board of directors and on which the Chamber communicates its position prior to the vote. Members of Congress who support the Chamber's position on at least 70 percent of key votes receive the "Spirit of Enterprise" award. Alexander scored 93 percent with the Chamber last year and has compiled a 77 percent cumulative ranking since elected to Congress in 2002.

"I appreciate this honor and pledge to continue voting for the best interests of business and American workers," said Alexander, a member of the House Appropriations Committee.

"I've always said that for businesses to survive and for jobs to increase, Members of Congress have to vote against the dangers of over taxation, over regulation and over litigation."

Cutline for the attached photo: "U.S. Chamber of Commerce Executive Vice President Bruce Josten presents U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander with the "Spirit of Enterprise" award for his strong support of legislation important to the American business community during 2005."