



## **For Immediate Release**

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### ***Council Names Congressman Culberson to Honor Roll of Legislative Achievement in Economic Development***

ATLANTA – April 20, 2005 – The Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC), the oldest and largest regional economic development association in North America, announced today the recipients of its ninth annual **Honor Roll of Legislative Achievement in Economic Development**.

The **Honorable John Culberson** was one of only 122 legislators named to SEDC's 2005 Honor Roll of Legislative Achievement in Economic Development and is invited to attend a reception hosted by the SEDC Board of Directors in Washington, D.C. The reception will be held May 18 in the United States Capitol Building, LBJ Room, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

"SEDC's territory we call the 'American South' has seen tremendous growth in jobs and capital investments from new and expanding businesses in recent years," said SEDC Chairman Vic Lafont. "This success is due in large part to the efforts of our members, their communities and states, and also to the hard work of our legislators in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress. Without their continual support of Federal initiatives directed at helping us remain competitive, we would not be as successful."

"This is our ninth year of presenting these awards and each year the SEDC Honor Roll continues to grow in prestige," said Gene Stinson, SEDC president. "We are seeing more members of Congress recognize this achievement as a benchmark of where they want to be in continuing economic expansion in the region. Positive economic growth and expansion are of tremendous benefit for communities and everyone wants to be a part of ensuring it continues."

SEDC has more than 1,000 members representing a variety of backgrounds. From local, regional and state economic development agencies, chambers of commerce, business and industry, utilities, transportation, finance and education, members share a common interest: the promotion and enhancement of the economic development profession. To find out more about SEDC, please visit our Web site at [www.sedc.org](http://www.sedc.org).