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2009 Legislator of the Year

Indianapolis: Rep. Woody Burton, R- District 58, has been named 2009 Legislator of the Year by the Indiana Bankers Association (IBA). He is the first recipient of the award, to be presented annually henceforth. IBA president and chief executive officer S. Joe DeHaven presented the award to Rep. Burton on Sept. 22 at the Association's annual convention, held in French Lick.

Burton was recognized for his contribution to the business climate of Indiana—particularly in the areas of banking, real estate and insurance—since joining the Indiana Legislature in 1988. He has worked to permanently repeal property taxes in Indiana and, in 2007, was instrumental in passing legislation that capped property taxes. Burton will be continuing his efforts through the upcoming 2010 legislative session to pass a resolution calling for a permanent cap on property taxes through a referendum to amend the state constitution.

Certified as a graduate Realtor, residential broker and residential specialist, Burton consistently has been supportive of IBA-backed legislation related to banking, particularly regarding mortgage issues. IBA president Joe DeHaven summarized Burton's unique perspective as a public servant: "Being a Realtor, he fully understands the mortgage process. Being a pro-business conservative, he fully understands the importance of free markets in growing our economy. And being a compassionate person who started from humble roots, he understands the real needs of consumers."

Widely respected among his peers, Burton serves as the ranking Republican member of the Financial Institutions Committee and is a member of the Insurance Committee and of the Elections and Apportionment Committee.



S. Joe DeHaven (left), Indiana Bankers Association, presents the Association's inaugural Legislator of the Year award to **Rep. Woody Burton**.

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