



New Hampshire State Senate **NEWS RELEASE**

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Sen. Morse honored as “Outstanding Legislator” for 2011

NH Council on Developmental Disabilities cites his leadership on Senate Finance with state budget

Concord -- The New Hampshire Council on Developmental Disabilities held its annual Holiday Gathering on Wednesday to recognize state legislators who have made an outstanding contribution to improving the quality of life of people with disabilities during the 2011 legislative session.

Sen. Chuck Morse, R-Salem, received the “Outstanding Legislator for 2011”. In giving Morse the award, Executive Director Carol Stamatakis said, “Our council members greatly appreciated your leadership of the Senate Finance Committee in conducting proceedings that were exceptionally respectful to the public, your history of service to your community and your willingness to be accessible to people with disabilities and their families and to listen to their concerns.”

Morse, who chairs Finance, returned to the state Senate in 2010 after four years away from Concord. He came back due to his serious concerns over the 2012-2013 budget along with his desire to solve the state’s \$800 million deficit. “I was determined to balance the budget and eliminate the deficit, which we did,” said Morse, “but all the while, I kept in mind the needs of those individuals and families who depend so heavily on state services. We can’t help everyone as much as we’d like, but I am always willing to listen to people. We heard some really heart-breaking stories during our budget deliberations, stories that you don’t quickly forget. The Council on Developmental Disabilities is a great partner to work with, particularly when it comes to understanding the needs of our disabled citizens. I’m very honored by this award and accept it on behalf of the entire Senate.”

Rep. Donna Schlachman, D-Exeter was honored as the “Outstanding Legislator” in the House while Linda Quintanilha received “Advocate of the Year”. The event was held at the Holiday Inn on North Main Street in Concord.

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