

# News

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Illinois Association of County Board Members and Commissioners  
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## The Illinois Association of County Board Members Names Senator Althoff and Representative Riley Legislators of the Year



SPRINGFIELD- Senator Pam Althoff (R-32) and Representative Al Riley (D-38) have been chosen by the Illinois Association of County Board Members and Commissioners (IACBMC) as the annual recipients of their "Legislator of the Year" award for 2009. The state legislators were recognized for providing outstanding support for the advancement of county government goals and local government issues. President Mike McLaughlin presented the awards to the respective recipients at the IACBMC spring conference on Tuesday April 28th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield.

"We are proud to have such strong supporters of county government recognized this year. These two legislators have consistently proved to be invaluable to local government issues," states the President of the IACBMC Mike McLaughlin.

"I love working with people, whether they are angry with me at the time or not... We want to improve quality of life in Illinois," Althoff stated. She mentions that we (State Senate) are reaching out to associations that represent local government and explaining how and why to lobby your elected officials. Althoff also proclaimed, "I love my position, the only greater ambition I have is to get better and better at what I do."

Senator Althoff was appointed to the Illinois State Senate in 2003 and was elected in 2004. She represents her district on the Local Government Committee in addition to Committee of the Whole, Appropriations II (Minority Spokesperson), Licensed Activities (Minority Spokesperson), Appropriations I, Higher Education, Labor; and Deficit Reduction. The Senator has chaired the Local Government Caucus and served on the Local Government Task Force as well as the Consolidation Commission.

Representative Riley stated, "We need to recognize that local governments can't do it by themselves. You can't be cynical (about government), cynicism is a lazy way out." Riley mentioned in an interview with the IACBMC that he would like to be in a position to affect public policy for a long time and proclaims, "It's not a popularity contest, if something is wrong then try to do something about it and get involved."

Representative Riley has served in the House of Representatives since 2007. He serves on the Counties and Townships Committee as well as the following: Appropriations - Elementary & Secondary Education, Appropriations - General Service (Vice-Chairperson), Cities & Villages (Vice-Chairperson), Infrastructure, Mass Transit, Youth and Family, and Tollway Oversight.

The Illinois Association of County Board Members and Commissioners is the official statewide organization of Illinois' major county governments and their governing officials. IACBMC is devoted exclusively to enhancing the stature, role and responsiveness of county government in the State of Illinois.