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Jacksonville Senator John Thrasher Named Florida Chamber's 2010 Most Valuable Legislator
Florida Chamber of Commerce Honors Senator Thrasher as Most Pro-Business Legislator of 2010

(Tallahassee, Fla.) – Senator John Thrasher has been named the 2010 Most Valuable Legislator by the Florida Chamber of Commerce for his leadership on pro-business issues during this year's Legislative Session.

"It is an honor to receive the Most Valuable Legislator Award from the Florida Chamber," said Senator Thrasher. "I am proud of the work we have done this year to create jobs and continue positioning Florida as a strong competitor in the global economy and I will keep fighting for the business community in the years to come."

Senator Thrasher is only the second senator to ever receive this honor, which he earned by supporting the Florida Business Agenda with bold education reform, job creation, legal reform, and the streamlining of government systems. During the 2010 Legislative Session, he led the charge to transition our economy, create new jobs for Floridians, invest in quality teachers and our students, create greater transparency and accountability in state contracts with private attorneys, and transform the way we reward quality teachers.

Despite strong opposition from union leaders, Senator Thrasher remained steadfast in his commitment to innovative education reforms. His dedication to common-sense government paid dividends during this year's session – Governor Crist signed an important Florida Chamber-backed bill sponsored by Senator Thrasher that provides for greater transparency and accountability in state contracts with private attorneys and limits plaintiff trial lawyers' profit to \$50 million.

The highest honor bestowed by the Florida Chamber, the Most Valuable Legislator Award recognizes the legislator who championed pro-business issues and used his or her leadership in the Legislature to strengthen Florida's economy and business climate, and help create quality jobs for Floridians. This award recognizes a leader with the strength and courage to stand up and fight for the free enterprise system and the business community on tough issues, no matter who the opposition is or what the consequence.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce also recognizes legislators who championed key Florida Business Agenda legislation as Distinguished Advocates in its annual post-session publication, *How They Voted 2010*. An electronic copy of *How They Voted 2010* is now available for viewing and download on the Florida Chamber website at www.floridachamber.com.

Established in 1916 as Florida's first statewide business advocacy organization, the Florida Chamber of Commerce is the state's largest federation of employers, chambers of commerce and associations, representing more than 139,000 employers. The Chamber works within all branches of government to affect those changes set forth in the annual Florida Business Agenda, and which are seen as critical to the continued improvement of Florida's business environment. Visit www.FloridaChamber.com.