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NEWS

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Rep. Ehlers Honored By U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Group Presents 'Spirit of Enterprise' Award for Pro-Business Votes

WASHINGTON, D.C. –The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation, today presented Rep. Vernon Ehlers (R-MI) with its 1999 "Spirit of Enterprise" Award for his strong support for pro-business policies and legislation in the first session of the 106th Congress.

"In the last session of Congress, Vernon clearly demonstrated that he supports better jobs, increased productivity, and economic growth which go hand in hand with the success of American business," said Thomas J. Donohue, President and CEO of the Chamber.

The Chamber awards the "Spirit of Enterprise" based on rankings it gives Members of Congress in its annual publication, *How They Voted*. Votes included in the rankings must be recorded floor votes on issues which the Chamber's Board of Directors has established policy and the Chamber's position has been communicated to members of Congress prior to the vote.

For the first session of the 106th Congress, the Chamber designated 17 Senate votes and 25 House votes as "key votes." Lawmakers who support the Chamber position on at least 70 percent of these key votes received the "Spirit of Enterprise" Award.

Rep. Ehlers earned a 96% score with the Chamber last year and has compiled a 93% career ranking during his time in Congress. Key votes for 1999 included issues such as Y2K liability reform, cutting taxes, expanding trade and reducing excessive regulations.

For a complete list of key votes and ratings for individual Members of Congress, please contact the U.S. Chamber Media Relations Department at (202) 463-5682.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation, representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region.

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