NEWS RELEASE

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Jacksonville Legislators Win Top Honors for Outstanding 1996 Achievements

(Tallahassee, Fla.) -- Senator Betty Holzendorf and Representative Joe Arnall were honored by the Florida Insurance Council this week for outstanding achievements on behalf of insurance consumers during the 1996 legislative session. Sen. Holzendorf, a Democrat, and Rep. Arnall, a Republican, both represent the greater Jacksonville area and received the Harry G. Landrum outstanding Leadership and Distinguished Service Award.

The award was established by the Council this year in honor of Harry G. Landrum, who retired in May after a distinguished 31-year career lobbying the Legislature.

Sen. Holzendorf served on the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee and was cited for her work in life and health insurance issues, specifically a new law that establishes a premium tax credit when companies are assessed to pay claims from an insolvent health insurer or life insurer. The credit will reduce or eliminate the need for surcharges on an assessed company's customers.

Rep. Arnall served on the House Insurance Committee and received the Landrum award for his work on property and casualty insurance issues, specifically his efforts to help forge a package of reforms to solve the property insurance crisis in Florida.

Jacksonville mayor quotes. (According to Jacksonville Mayor _____,)

The Landrum awards were presented June 24 during the Council's 34th Annual Conference. FIC also named its incoming slate of officers, and elected Jacksonville resident Michael R. Hightower, Vice President, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Florida, as Chairman of the Board for its 1996-97.

The Florida Insurance Council is one of the largest state trade associations in the United States representing insurance industry members. It is comprised of over 250 companies, businesses and associations who write more than $12 billion a year in premium volume in Florida.

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