PITTSBURGH, Pa. - In appreciation of his efforts to support small business development and job creation in the Commonwealth, Representative Peter J. Daley (D-49) was honored with a Small Business Champion Award by the Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) network.

Representative Daley, who serves as the Commerce Committee Chairman, was recognized on May 12, 2011 during the 13th annual Entrepreneur's Growth Conference hosted by the Duquesne University SBDC.

Christian Conroy, State Director of the Pennsylvania SBDC, said that Daley was selected for the Small Business Champion Award because he has been a “terrific” champion of the program for many years.

“Over the years, Pete has been involved and supportive,” Conroy said. “Not only did he advocate for our funding in the last state budget cycle through individual letters and regional caucus letters but, as chairman of the House Commerce Committee, he worked with our organization to host seven regional hearings across the state on legislation and issues that are critical to small business development and growth. The SBDC truly values that support.”

Representative Daley recognizes the importance of the Pennsylvania SBDC’s to small business owners.

“On a daily basis, the SBDC reinvigorates the American dream of opportunity for all,” Daley said. “Every dime that the state invests in SBDC is returned many times over through business growth and expansion, job creation and something more that is hard to put a price tag on the opportunity for every individual who has a great idea but needs a helping hand to get the business off the ground, direct access to a great network of resources that will allow him or her to turn that dream into a reality.”

“I am flattered by my selection for this award,” Daley said. “It was an entrepreneurial spirit that helped to develop our country and small businesses that fueled its growth over the years. During these tough economic times, I truly believe
that it is small business that will reinvigorate the economy and turn tough times into opportunities. I am pleased to have been able to play a role in this process.”

About the Pennsylvania SBDC
For 30 years, the network of 18 university- and college-based Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) has helped grow the economy through small businesses. Operating out of the University of Pennsylvania, the SBDC is funded in part by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration and higher education institutions. This support enables confidential consulting services to be provided at no charge to the client. For more information, visit www.pasbdc.org.

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