



Illinois Hospital Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 20, 2008

Contact: Danny Chun (630) 276-5558
dchun@ihastaff.org

**ILLINOIS HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION HONORS
REP. BARBARA FLYNN CURRIE WITH PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD**

Naperville and Springfield, Ill. – The Illinois Hospital Association (IHA) presented its 2008 Excellence in Public Service Award to Illinois House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie (D-25, Chicago) on Nov. 19 at its annual reception in Springfield for the Conference of Women Legislators (photo below). The award recognizes individuals who have made an outstanding commitment to health care delivery and other services that improve the health of Illinoisans.

“Her reputation as a tireless advocate for her constituents mirrors her reputation in Springfield as a key leader in the public policy making process,” said Howard A. Peters, IHA Senior Vice President for Government Relations. She represents Chicago’s Hyde Park area as well as other culturally diverse populations on the city’s south side.

Representative Currie has dedicated her career to public service in the Illinois General Assembly since 1979. In 1997, she became the first female house majority leader in the history of the Illinois General Assembly.

Representative Currie was honored “in recognition of her long and distinguished career as an advocate for excellent public policy in the Illinois House of Representatives, where she helped achieve a new hospital assessment program and always remains sensitive to hospital concerns.” The program, which is being reviewed by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, would provide the state more than \$3.8 Billion in federal Medicaid funds over a five-year period.

The Illinois Hospital Association, with offices in Naperville and Springfield, is an advocate for 200 Illinois hospitals and the patients and communities they serve.

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House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie (D-Chicago) receives IHA's Excellence in Public Service Award from Kathleen Dunn, IHA Vice President, Government Relations