



For Immediate Release  
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## **Illinois Hospital Association Honors State Representative Roger Eddy**

Springfield – State Representative Roger Eddy (R-109, Hutsonville) received the “IHA 2009 Rural Legislator of the Year” award on June 24 at the Illinois Hospital Association’s (IHA) Small and Rural Hospitals Constituency Section 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Springfield. The annual award is presented to an elected official who shows strong leadership on rural health policies and efforts to pass legislation and support initiatives that improve the ability of rural hospitals to serve their communities.

Rep. Eddy was nominated by Crawford Memorial Hospital, Robinson; Lawrence County Memorial Hospital, Lawrenceville; and Paris Community Hospital. He worked with Crawford Memorial Hospital to successfully bring outpatient renal dialysis, a greatly needed service, to the area. Crawford also noted that he has responded favorably when asked to support the Hospital Assessment Program, medical liability caps and rural telemedicine funding.

Lawrence County Memorial Hospital said that Rep. Eddy has been instrumental in implementing a Pharmacy Registry. This reduces the expense of treating individuals who have been injured or are dependent on methamphetamine, saving hospital resources. He also was extremely helpful with disaster relief efforts during the 2008 summer floods.

Paris Community Hospital stated that Rep. Eddy has worked diligently in the General Assembly and with key local leaders to take what was a shuttered state-run prison work camp and transfer its ownership to the community of Paris for use as a future site for college classes. This facility will help provide trained and skilled workers for local industry and health care facilities.

“Rep. Eddy has been a strong and effective supporter of Crawford Memorial Hospital and health care initiatives in our community for many years,” said Don Annis, CEO, Crawford Memorial Hospital. Douglas Florkowski, CEO, Lawrence County Memorial Hospital noted that “Rep. Eddy is someone who not only listens, but also responds to his constituents’ needs.”

IHA, with offices in Naperville and Springfield, is an advocate for 200 Illinois hospitals and health systems and the patients and communities they serve. Additional information about IHA is available online at [www.ihatoday.org](http://www.ihatoday.org).

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