



## **SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

### **2009 Douglas E. Bryant Legislator of the Year**

#### **South Carolina Public Health Association Honors Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter**

**The South Carolina Public Health Association honored Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter for her significant commitment to the public health of South Carolina's citizens on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 in Santee, SC. Rep. Cobb-Hunter was presented the 2009 Douglas E. Bryant Legislator of the Year Award, named in the honor of former South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) Commissioner Douglas E. Bryant, that is given by the Association in honor of an elected state or federal public servant, who has demonstrated significant commitment to the public health of South Carolina through proven records of sponsorship, services and support of important public health initiatives.**

**Representative Cobb-Hunter was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives for District 66, Orangeburg County in 1992. She has been an advocate for social change, strengthening laws as with issue of violence with families and a strong passion for eliminating disparities in health. She has worked on the national and state levels on a variety of progressive issues aimed at making communities a better place to live. Rep. Cobb-Hunter has always had a strong passion for public service and helping the community. Rep. Cobb-Hunter has sponsored and co-sponsored many bills. Among the many bills she was primary sponsor are:**

- Sponsored a bill to require a person who sells tobacco products including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, tobacco, and cigarette papers shall keep these tobacco products behind a counter so as to be out of view from a customer or patron.**
- Sponsored law to create breast cancer awareness license tags.**
- Sponsored a bill to require a student who participates on a school sponsored athletic team to be administered an electrocardiogram test during the student's pre-participation physical and to require the doctor who administers the test to clear the student for him or her to be eligible to participate.**
- A concurrent resolution to express the sense of the S. C. General Assembly for the need to eliminate the health disparities among the citizens of South Carolina and for the state of South Carolina to support studies, policies, and practices dedicated to the elimination of these health disparities and to the reduction of barriers to adequate health care.**

**Through her leadership, a \$750 million dollar bond initiative was passed to build new schools and to establish the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to provide coverage to thousands of South Carolina's neediest children. She is an effective champion for health of all South Carolinians and a true friend of public health. She is an innovative and dynamic leader, and a champion for the people she is honored to represent. The Association is therefore honored to recognize Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter as the 2009 Douglas E. Bryant Legislator of the Year.**



**Pictured from left to right: SCPHA President Dennis Thompson, Douglas E. Bryant, Rep. Cobb-Hunter, and SCPHA Legislative Chair Michael Chappell**