



## SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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

#### **South Carolina Public Health Association Honors Senator Ralph Anderson**

***Greenville, SC:*** The South Carolina Public Health Association honored Sen. Ralph Anderson for his significant commitment to the public health of South Carolinians on Wednesday, July 15, 2009. The South Carolina Public Health Association (SCPHA) is a statewide organization for public health professionals. The purpose and goal of the Association is to protect and promote personal, community and environmental health, to exercise leadership in health policy development and action and to provide a forum for matters pertaining to public health. Sen. Anderson 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.

Senator Ralph Anderson was elected to the South Carolina Senate for District 7, Greenville County in 1996 after serving five years in the House of Representatives. Senator Anderson has always had a strong passion for public service and helping the community. Senator Anderson has sponsored and co-sponsored many bills. One of the bills he was primary sponsor for: *Senate Bill 1318: Hospital Infection Disclosure Act*, which has the potential to significantly reduce death and disabilities from health care acquired infections. Through his vision, South Carolina is one of the leaders in the movement all across the United States to disclose hospital infections rates to the public. Senator Anderson strongly supported promotion on influenza immunizations in our state and strongly supports the cigarette tax and the adult immunization program. He is an effective champion for health of all South Carolinians and a true friend of public health. He is an innovative and dynamic leader and champion for the people he is honored to represent. The Association is therefore, honored to recognize Sen. Ralph Anderson as the 2009 Douglas E. Bryant Legislator of the Year.



**Barbara Thomas (DHEC Region 2), SCPHA President Dennis Thompson, Douglas Bryant, Representative from Greenville Hospital System, Senator Ralph Anderson, SCPHA Legislative Chair Michael Chappell**



**Douglas Bryant and Senator Ralph Anderson**