

**State Representative
Kenny Yuko**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 10, 2010

**Rep. Yuko Honored by Ohio Ambulance & Medical Transportation
Association**

Awarded Legislator of the Year for his efforts on House Bill 499

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Ambulance & Medical Transportation Association has given their first ever “Legislator of the Year” award to State Rep. Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Heights). They are honoring him for his support on addressing unintended complications related to the bundling of Nursing Home services in House Bill 1.

A provision in House Bill 1 bundled together services such as resident transportation, wheelchairs, oxygen, over-the-counter drugs, and occupational/speech therapy and gave funding for those services to nursing facilities on a per diem, per patient basis instead of directly to the service providers who were previously paid on a fee-for-service basis

Rep. Yuko is the sponsor of House Bill 499, which seeks to remove these services from the provision and incorporate certain prescription drugs instead.

“Since the bundling went into effect last August I have heard from numerous service providers and patients.” Rep Yuko said. “Businesses who provide these services are suffering and patients aren’t getting the care that they need. The bundling provision was added with good intentions, but unfortunately we are seeing unintended consequences that need to be fixed.”

The Ohio Ambulance & Medical Transportation Association is the professional organization representing EMS and medical transportation providers of Ohio. They presented the award to Rep. Yuko at their annual conference in Columbus.