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"Civic Engagement in Public Education"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Rep. Jerry N. Govan, Jr. receives SC-SIC Board's 2015 Legislator of the Year Award

COLUMBIA – State Representative Jerry N. Govan, Jr. (D-District 95, Orangeburg), has been presented with the SC School Improvement Council (SC-SIC) Board of Trustees' Legislator of the Year Award for 2015.

The award was presented Saturday, March 7, during the SC-SIC Annual Meeting in Lexington.

"Throughout his legislative career, Rep. Govan has been a vocal supporter of education, and in particular, the value of the state's School Improvement Councils," said SC-SIC Executive Director Tom F. Hudson. "We are very pleased to recognize him for his continued and unflinching efforts on behalf of public education and in of the SC School Improvement Council and SICs throughout the state."

The longest serving member on the South Carolina House of Representatives Education and Public Works Committee, Rep. Govan has served in the State General Assembly since 1993 representing District 95 (Orangeburg County). He also currently serves as 1st Vice Chair for the House Operations and Management Committee.

Rep. Govan earned a B.A. degree in 1982 and Master of Arts in Teaching in 2003 from South Carolina State University, and he has pursued additional graduate studies at the University of South Carolina in Columbia.

He is currently Attendance Supervisor for Orangeburg Consolidated School District Five, where he has also held the positions of Dropout Prevention Coordinator, Parent and After School Coordinator, and Parent Educator, and he has also served as Literacy Consultant and Community Education Coordinator for Orangeburg County Adult Education.

He previously served as Primary Prevention Specialist and Program Coordinator for the County Assault on Drugs Force of the Tri-County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse; Coordinator of the Pre-Trial Intervention program for the First Judicial Circuit; Director of the Small Business Development Center and Assistant to the Director of Personnel at South Carolina State University; and as a Recruiting Officer for the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Rep. Govan is a US Armed Forces veteran, having served as a Personnel Specialist for the US Navy, and he is a 1980 graduate of the US Marine Corps Officer Candidate School.

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Active in his community, Rep. Govan is a member and Associate Minister of Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Orangeburg. He is a graduate of Leadership Orangeburg (1990), Leadership South Carolina (1992), is a 1998 Fleming Policy Fellow, and is a 2012 South Carolina Education Policy Fellow. He has also served as a local School Improvement Council member.

Rep. Govan is married to the former Wanda E. Gibson, and has four children: Shawntara, Jeri Nicole, LaWanda, and Gabrielle.

A core partner of the Center for Educational Partnerships at the University of South Carolina College of Education, SC-SIC was established in state law over 35 years ago to provide the member training, technical assistance, statutory accountability, and operational resources vital to the continued success of the community-based School Improvement Councils in each of the state's 1,100-plus K-12 public schools.

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