



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WIDENER NAMED PUBLIC SERVANT OF THE YEAR BY OHIO
ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

COLUMBUS—State Senator Chris Widener (R- Springfield) was named the Ohio Association of Career and Technical Education’s (OACTE) 2012 Public Servant of the Year at the association’s annual legislative seminar.

“With emerging industries like shale and gas in eastern Ohio, bio-medical in northeast Ohio, and aerospace in southwest Ohio, we need key partners like our career-tech schools and career centers at the forefront of workforce training,” Widener said. “This is a great honor to be given and I am very appreciative of the relationship that I and my colleagues have with OACTE,”



Senator Widener (right) receives the 2012 Public Servant of the Year Award from Dr. John A. Boggess (left), Superintendent of the Miami Valley Career Technology Center

“The key to job growth and economic recovery is a highly trained and highly skilled workforce,” Widener said. “The best thing we can do to create opportunities for Ohioans to get back to work is to close the skills gap, and OACTE’s members are doing that very well.”

Note: If you would like a high-resolution version of the above photo, please contact Daniel Hurley in Senator Widener’s Office at (614) 466-3790.

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Senator Chris Widener serves the people of the 10th Senate District, which includes Clark, Greene and Madison counties. He is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and a member of the Senate Ways & Means & Economic Development, Government Oversight & Reform, and Rules & Reference committees.