

American Shore & Beach Preservation Association Honors Castle with National Award for His Steadfast Support of Preserving Delaware Beaches -- March 23, 2007

Washington D.C. -- The American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASPBA) honored Delaware Congressman Mike Castle yesterday with their Coastal Advocate Award for being a steadfast and outspoken voice for America's environment and coastal resources, specifically Delaware's beaches and the Atlantic Coast Line. Congressman Castle was joined at the award ceremony by Carol Olmstead, Mayor of Bethany Beach; Gary Jayne, Mayor of South Bethany Beach; Tony Pratt, Shoreline Administrator for the State of Delaware; Bob Parsons, former Mayor of Bethany Beach; Dell Tush, Mayor of Dewey Beach; and Julia Jacobsen, Bethany Beach resident.

Earlier this week, the delegation announced that Bethany and South Bethany beaches would receive \$14.4 million in federal funding to conduct the beach replenishment work needed. Additionally, in part due to Congressman Castle's work and the rest of the delegation, Rehoboth and Dewey Beaches were also formally presented with a 2006 Top Restored Beach Award by the ASBPA.

"The Delaware beaches -- from Cape Henlopen to Fenwick Island -- are some of the most beautiful places in our state. They are loved and visited by Delawareans and tourists alike and importantly, also provide a significant tourism industry for Sussex County, Delaware. There is no question that their protection and preservation is and must continue to be a top priority," Castle said. "Our beaches are a natural resource that we are charged with protecting for generations to come. I am proud to play a part in that effort."

The award was presented to Castle at ASPBA's annual Coastal Summit Congressional Reception, which brings together ASBPA members, Members of Congress and their staffs, and representatives of various federal agencies to discuss ways to better collectively preserve and protect America's coastal resources. ASPBA is a non-profit organization founded in 1926 dedicated to the sound, far-sighted and economical development and preservation of the shores of America's oceans, lakes and rivers.

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