



# KARL VAN ROY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Van Roy Named "Champion of Commerce"**

**MADISON** – Rep. Karl Van Roy (R-Howard) has been named a “Champion of Commerce” by the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce Council of Small Business Executives (MMAC). The designation is awarded to lawmakers who scored 75% or better on proposals in the 2005-2006 legislative session that promoted sustained economic growth. Van Roy scored 100%.

“Through the hard work of these lawmakers, we were able to achieve a number of significant public policy victories for workers and employers,” said MMAC President Tim Sheehy. “These are men and women who get it and are working hard in Madison to keep Wisconsin’s economy competitive.”

Some of the initiatives in the MMAC “Blueprint for Economic Prosperity” included:

- Workplace Wellness Tax Credit – creating a state tax credit for money businesses spend on workplace wellness programs
- Higher Education Tax Credit – Allowing businesses a tax credit when they pay college or technical school tuition for their employees to further their education.
- Health Savings Account (HSA) Tax Exemption – making contributions to HSAs exempt from state income tax to help make health care more affordable.
- Expansion of Early Stage Seed and Angel Investment Tax Credits – encouraging increased venture capital investment to create new businesses and high paying jobs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Product Liability Reform – reversing the unprecedented “guilty until proven innocent” standard of product liability created by a 4-2 vote of the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 2005.
- Expansion of School Choice and Charter Schools in Milwaukee – encouraging expanded educational options and helping create a skilled workforce.
- Women-Owned Business Preference – requiring the Dept. of Commerce to extend the same employment preferences and assistance programs to women-owned businesses as it currently does for minority-owned businesses.

“As Chairman of the Small Business Committee, I am particularly honored to be recognized for efforts to enhance our business climate. Economic vitality is a big part of what makes Wisconsin a great place to live,” said Van Roy. “Our state continues to move forward because we make job creation, an educated workforce, and investment in our local businesses a top priority.”