



LOUISIANA SENATE

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SENATE STAFFER GARY SCHAEFER SELECTED AS RECIPIENT OF DISTINGUISHED NATIONAL AWARD

Gary Schaefer, the Information Systems Coordinator for the Louisiana Senate, is the recipient of the distinguished NALIT Legislative Staff Achievement Award. The National Association of Legislative Information Technology (NALIT) recognized Mr. Schaefer for his service to the Louisiana Senate and his contributions to NALIT and NCSL (National Conference of State Legislatures).

Mr. Schaefer started his career in public service as a student intern in 1976. He joined the Louisiana Senate's staff in 1999 to help innovate and support the Senate's technology, processes and systems. During that time, he has not only been a professional, competent and enthusiastic public servant but also an active and ardent supporter of NALIT.

He is currently a Director on the NALIT Executive Committee, serving in that capacity for a second time after his first term from 2002 – 2004. He has previously served as the NALIT Secretary, Vice-Chair and Chair. He has served on NALIT's Bylaws Committee, Nominating Committee, and PDS Planning Committee for a number of years. Additionally, Mr. Schaefer has been a member of NCSL's Legislative Staff Coordinating Committee, a member and staff Vice-Chair of NCSL's Communication, Financial Services and Interstate Commerce Committee on Standing Committees, an overall Staff Co-Vice-Chair of the NCSL Standing Committees, and an elected member of the NCSL Executive Committee from 2007 – 2010.

The annual Legislative Staff Achievement Award was created by the Legislative Staff Coordinating Committee to recognize excellence in supporting the work of a state legislature and strengthening the legislative institution. Each staff section associated with NCSL may name up to two recipients. The recipients are selected based on their contributions to NCSL and NALIT, their efforts to improve the effectiveness of their legislative institution, and their support of the legislative process and mission of their legislature.

NCSL is a bipartisan organization that serves the legislators and staffs of the nation's 50 states, its commonwealths and territories. NCSL provides research, technical assistance and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on state issues.

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