

PRESS RELEASE

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CATANIA RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR CANCER CONTROL EFFORTS

COUNCILMEMBER RECOGNIZED FOR EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP IN COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CONTROL

Washington, D.C. – Earlier today, Councilmember David Catania (At-Large) was awarded the 2007 Exemplary Comprehensive Cancer Control Leadership Award at a morning ceremony that included former President George H.W. Bush and Senator Diane Feinstein of California. The award was presented by C-Change, which is comprised of the nation's key cancer leaders from the government, business, and nonprofit sectors and is dedicated to facilitating independent and collaborative efforts to combat cancer.

“I am honored to receive this award,” said Catania. “This city has invested significant resources in cancer control over the past few years, and it is gratifying to be recognized for our work.”

Since becoming Chair of the D.C. Council’s Committee on Health in 2005, Catania has committed over \$34 million for cancer control initiatives. These include prostate, breast, ovarian, and cervical cancer screenings, as well as tobacco cessation and the formation of a comprehensive cancer control plan. Catania also played a pivotal role in the passage of the District’s smoke-free workplaces law and co-authored the recent law adding the HPV vaccine to the District’s required vaccination list.

“Given the prevalence of cancer among our residents, I was astonished to see how little had been done on cancer control before I assumed the chairmanship of the Committee on Health,” Catania explained. “However, in just a few short years we have made tremendous progress simply by harnessing our resources and focusing them on this critical area.”

Today’s award ceremony was part of C-Change’s Annual Meeting held at the Marriott Metro Center Hotel. For more information on C-Change, visit their website at <http://www.c-changetogether.org>.

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