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U.S. Congressman Steve Stivers Receives the 2017 Congressional Leadership in Economic Development Award

_The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) to present award during a lunch briefing_

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 3, 2017) – The Honorable Steve Stivers, Representative for the 15th Congressional District of Ohio, will be awarded the 2017 Congressional Leadership in Economic Development Award today.

The awards were presented in conjunction with a Congressional briefing hosted by IEDC titled “Why Invest in Economic Development: a Jobs Discussion.”

The Congressional Leadership in Economic Development Award recognizes a member of Congress who has made significant contributions to the field of economic development. The award is given to a leader for his or her continuous support of economic development, and/or for intense work on a single piece of legislation.

“Congressman Stivers is more than deserving of this prestigious award. His dedication to improving the lives of others through economic development can be seen throughout his career. IEDC is honored by his continuous support to our mission.” – Michael Langley, FM, CEO of Greater MSP, 2017 IEDC Chairman of the Board.

Congressman Steve Stivers’ experience spans both the public and private sector. Prior to being elected as a member of the Ohio State Senate in 2003, Congressman Stivers gained valuable business experience as a Licensed Trader for the Ohio Company and as the Vice President of Government Relations at Bank One.

“Congressman Stivers has been wonderfully supportive of economic development both nationally and in our home state of Ohio. As a citizen of his district, I’ve seen first-hand the benefits of his hard work as a civic servant, and am honored to have nominated him for this award.” Kenny McDonald, President and CEO, Columbus 2020

Congressman Stivers was a leader in the efforts to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank in 2015. In fewer than 10 years, the bank has financed more than $240 billion in U.S. imports, supported more than 1.4 million jobs domestically, and provided more than $3.8 billion to taxpayers. More than 90 percent of the bank’s transactions in 2016 directly supported small businesses across the country.

As a Member of the Financial Services Committee, which oversees the banking, insurance, and real estate industries, Congressman Stivers has encouraged healthy economic competition and support of the financial services industry, which is a source of nearly 70,000 jobs in Central Ohio. Additionally, in an effort to bridge the gap between job seekers and employers,
Congressman Stivers hosts an annual job fair in his district where attendees also receive resume writing and interview skills assistance.

Congressman Stivers has served in the Ohio Army National Guard for more than 30 years, and as a Brigadier General, is one of the highest-ranking National Guard members to simultaneously serve as a member of Congress.

**About the International Economic Development Council**
The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 5,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers typically work for cities, counties, states, public private partnerships and chamber of commerce and promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC’s members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. IEDC’s members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities and improve the quality of life in their regions. [www.iedcONLINE.org](http://www.iedcONLINE.org).