Congressman Receives Perkins Vocational Education Award

ST. LOUIS, MO — Comgress- received the Carl Perkins Humani- Vocational Association at their man Bill Goodling (PA-19) tarian Award from the American

national convention. The award is

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named after the late U.S. Representative Carl D. Perkins, who was a leader in vocational education programs as chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee.

"I would like to thank the National Association of State Councils on Vocational Education for honoring me with this award. I amy very proud to be associated with it and Carl Perkins' name. I had the pleasure of working with Chairman Perkins for a number of years and I share his interest in vocational education. I hop I will be able to carry the torch for vocational education as well as Chairman Perkins did," Goodling said upon accepting the award.

He continued, "As you know, the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act will expire in the 101st Congress. I am especially pleased with the timing because I will be the Ranking Republican on the Education and Labor Committee. I will enjoy the responsibility of rewriting the programs in vocational education.

"We have already begun the work. Currently, the Department of Education is busy with its National Assessment on Vocational Education. This is a large and amibtious study of the current voc-ed system in America. I am hopeful that the information gathered will be helpful in giving insight as to the needs for possible changes in the current law."

Goodling highlighted some of the areas he hopes to improve in the upcoming renewal of federal vocational education legislation. He cited the need for improving

business-vocational education partnerships. "I believe we should establish a better relationship between the two. I think we should be looking more at involving the business community with the schools. I believe we can learn from the successful European programs."

Goodling also called on the AVA to help assess priorities for the federal funding programs that already exist. "It is my understanding that the money is getting so divided that some school districts are receiving as little as \$1.24. I believe you can help us to assess priorities and help us target the money better," Goodling remarked. He noted that the federal government provides about 11% of all money spent on elementary and secondary vocational education in the U.S.

The Carl Perkins Humanitarian Award was established in 1985 by the American Vocational Association and is designed to honor individuals who have demonstrated the same humanitarian concerns exemplified by Rep. Perkins. The convention was the largest gathering of vocational educators this year and AVA members came from all 50 states.

Goodling, who will become the highest ranking minority party member of the House Education and Labor Committee in January, has been the ranking minority member of the Elementary, Secondary and Vocational Education Subcommittee for 10 years and, in that capacity, has been very active in vocational education issues.



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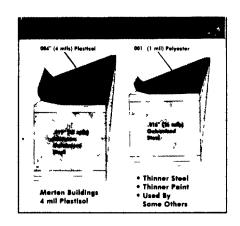


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