

**REP. JOHN KEFALAS –CO  
2010 NASW-LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR**

Tonight the Colorado Chapter, National Association of Social Workers, is honored to recognize Representative John Kefalas as Legislator of the Year.

What is significant about Rep. Kefalas is that he has devoted his entire life to advocacy on social justice in northern Colorado and Mexico, culminating finally in his work as a legislator. His voting record reflects his personal values, which mirror our social work values. He has worked diligently on legislation for Health Care for All Coloradans, the Earned Income Tax credit for low-wage workers, child abuse, immigration and legislation requiring plain language in insurance policies. A very significant piece of legislation he carried in 2009 set up the Economic Opportunity Poverty Reduction Task Force, charged with developing a strategic, integrated and comprehensive plan to expand economic opportunities and reduce the number of Coloradans living in poverty by 50% by 2019.

But, our recognition of Rep. Kefalas goes beyond his tireless, long term work on social justice issues or with our society's most vulnerable populations, to an even more important recognition. That is, that he is a politician who's most fundamental value is his integrity and his very basic respect for all people. Rep. Kefalas is the quintessential, civil, respectful and non-partisan, who is able to influence others to listen to his views, consider them even when they may not support them.

For this, his exceptional personal integrity, aligned with our social work values and his commitment to social justice in the community and in the state policy, we are proud to present our Legislator of the Year Award to Rep. John Kefalas.