

December 15, 2011

Press Release

CONTACT: Meredith Daughtridge
919-836-1422 (o); 919-271-4274 (c)

North Carolina Receives National Attention for Balanced Civil Liability Reforms

Raleigh – North Carolina received national recognition and accolades for civil liability and medical malpractice reforms enacted this past legislative session. Today, the American Tort Reform Association (ATRA), a national organization dedicated exclusively to reforming the civil justice system, released its annual report examining civil justice systems nationwide. The report highlighted North Carolina for the positive, balanced changes to our state’s legal system ushered in through House Bill 542: Tort Reform for Citizens and Businesses and Senate Bill 33: Medical Liability Reforms.

“As anemic economic growth and high unemployment continue to plague much of the country,” noted ATRA president Tiger Joyce, “many governors and state legislators were determined to make their states more competitive and attractive to employers. A variety of tort reform measures figured prominently in these policymakers’ pro-growth, job-creation agendas.” North Carolina was among the states that passed comprehensive and balanced measures and was featured in the “Points of Light” section of the report.

“North Carolina’s recognition by ATRA is a great reminder of the positive steps made for job creators this year,” said NC Chamber president and CEO Lew Ebert. “The North Carolina Chamber applauds the efforts of our state leaders who worked tirelessly to advance proactive legislation to deter frivolous lawsuits, reduce medical and legal costs and balance our state’s legal system.”

Ebert continued, “It is hard to separate the legal climate from the business climate, as the legal environment greatly impacts the state’s competitiveness for jobs, business investment and growth. The legal reforms enacted this year position North Carolina effectively to compete on a higher level, nationally and globally, for economic growth and job creation.”

Full text of ATRA’s report, Judicial Hellholes, and year-round updates are posted at www.judicialhellholes.org. North Carolina is highlighted in the “Points of Light” section on page 35.

###

701 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 400, Raleigh, NC 27607 > 919-836-1400 F > 919-836-1425
ncchamber.net

The North Carolina Chamber is a non-partisan business advocacy organization that works in the legislative, regulatory and political arenas to proactively drive positive change to ensure that North Carolina is a leading place in the world to do business.