

900 Attend 8th Annual Student Organization Leadership Day

Almost 800 members of Career and Technical Education Student Organizations (CTSOs) and more than 100 of their advisers from Kentucky's public high schools attended the Eighth Annual Student Organization Leadership Day (SOLD) in Frankfort on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2009.

SOLD offers many attendees their only opportunity to see Kentucky's legislative process in action and to learn about their roles as citizens. SOLD is presented by KACTE (the Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education), a statewide professional association of CTE educators from all levels and program disciplines. One KACTE mission is to support CTSOs. SOLD is sponsored by the CTSO State Advisers who work at the Education Cabinet's Office of Career and Technical Education and the Department of Education's Division for Career and Technical Education. Supported by the many work areas available to CTE graduates, SOLD also is sponsored by the Home Builders Association of Kentucky, the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation, the Kentucky Association of Highway Contractors, the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, the



KENTUCKY STATE Senator Vernie McGaha addresses CTSO members assembled for the 8th Annual Student Organization Leadership Day on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2009.



FEBRUARY IS Career and Technical Education Month, and it was recognized with a Governor's Proclamation and resolutions passed unanimously by both the Kentucky House and Senate on Feb. 10. Above, Mary Hollomon, Crittenden County, FCCLA President, is recognized on the Senate floor by Sen. Vernie McGaha. Below, Righter Dundon, Franklin County, SkillsUSA President, is recognized on the House floor by Rep. Derrick Graham. Sen. McGaha and Rep. Graham spoke at SOLD and introduced the recognition resolutions in their chambers.



Kentucky Manufactured Housing Institute, the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, and the Mechanical Contractors Association of Kentucky.

"Some of the students attending SOLD may be our future elected officials," KACTE Executive Director Michael R. Stone said. "Just as their exemplary achievement in earning skill standard certificates and postsecondary degrees will contribute to the state's future economic foundation; so, too, will their interest in the legislative process contribute to future governmental leadership. Kentucky has a part-time General Assembly comprised of citizens from many walks of life. Giving all students an opportunity to believe they can make a difference is an investment in all our futures."

More than 200,000 students in Kentucky at middle schools, high schools, area technology centers, and community and technical colleges are enrolled in CTE courses. Approximately 40,000 of those students participate in Career and Technical Education Student Organizations (CTSOs). Authorized through the federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, CTSOs provide skill contests, leadership training, and connections to the workplace for members of DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America for marketing/retail students), FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America and its postsecondary counterpart Phi Beta Lambda), FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America), FFA (for agricultural education students), HOSA (Health Occupations Students Association), SkillsUSA (for trade, technical and industrial educational students), and TSA (Technology Students Association).



Always a fun part of Student Organization Leadership Day is a role-play of the proper way to meet and speak with an elected official. In 2009, officers from FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) and SkillsUSA starred.