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SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE BROOME SELECTED AS 2004 TOLL FELLOW

Lexington, KY – Rep. Sharon Weston Broome, Speaker Pro Tempore of the Louisiana House of Representatives is one of 40 state leaders from across the nation selected for the prestigious Toll Fellowship Program sponsored by The Council of State Governments.

The annual week-long seminar, to be held June 26-July 1 in Lexington, KY, is named in honor of Henry Toll, a Colorado senator who founded CSG in 1933. Its aim is to develop the next generation of leaders from all three branches of state government. This year's dynamic program will focus on trends analysis, policy development and institutional changes. The experience gives these leaders perspectives they would not ordinarily obtain during the course of their regular governmental service.

Rep. Broome was nominated by Sen. Mary Landreiu with endorsements from Sen. Cleo Fields and Andy Kopplin, Governor's office Chief of Staff. Rep. Broome was selected from many outstanding applicants by a committee of state elected and appointed officials as one of the most promising leaders of state government. Past Toll Fellowship graduates include governors, U.S. Senators and members of Congress as well as leaders in state government.

Rep. Broome is the first female elected as Speaker Pro Tempore of the Louisiana House of Representatives. Rep. Broome is also the first African American female elected to the Louisiana State Legislature for East and West Baton Rouge Parishes, representing House District 29. She was reelected to her fourth term last October receiving eighty percent of the vote from her constituents. In addition to serving in the number two position in the House of Representatives as Speaker Pro Tempore, Broome is also a member of the Health and Welfare Committee and House Executive Committee.

With offices in Atlanta, Chicago, Kentucky, New York, Sacramento and Washington, D.C., The Council of State Governments is a national nonpartisan, nonprofit public service organization. The Council serves 50 states, six U.S. territories and commonwealths. In addition to the Toll Fellows Program, CSG provides legislative conferences and executive workshops, research information and multistate problem-solving opportunities for state governments.

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