

Senator Daniel Webster, Florida Senate

Daniel Webster was first elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1980. He served in the House for 18 years where he held numerous leadership positions including: Minority Floor Leader, Minority Whip, Republican Leader 1994-96, and Speaker of the House 1996-98.

Elected to the Senate in 1998, Senator Webster has continued his legislative career as Chair and member of a wide range of committees. He currently serves as Senate Majority Leader.

Senator Webster has received many awards during his 28 years of public service. The most recent awards include: The United States Distance Learning Association Eagle Award, 2008; Nemours Orlando Children's Hospital Award of Appreciation, 2008; Central Florida Partnership Award, 2008; Howard Phillips Center for Children and Families' Legislative Appreciation Award, 2008; American Cancer Society Legislative Leadership Award, 2007; Florida Dental Association's Lifetime Legislative Achievement Award in honor of Dr. Lewis Earl, 2007; Florida Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Legislator of the Year, 2006; Florida Retail Federation Legislator of the Year, 2005; Florida Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Advocate Award, 2005.

In 1996, Senator Webster became the First Republican Speaker of the House in 122 years. He has been twice named "Statesman of the Year" by the Republican Party of Florida, and he has been inducted into Georgia Tech's Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni. In 2005, State Road 429 (Orange County) was designated the Daniel Webster Western Beltway. During the 2008 Session, the Turnpike Enterprise Headquarters Building, located at the Turkey Lake Service Plaza on the Florida Turnpike, was designated the "Senator Daniel Webster Building", and the members of the Florida House of Representatives named the body's largest meeting hall, 212 Knott Building, the "Speaker Daniel Webster Hall" or "Webster Hall".

Senator Webster is married to the former Sandra Jordan of Orlando, and they have six children: David, Brent, Jordan, John, Elizabeth and Victoria, and five grandchildren. Senator Webster is active in his church, First Baptist Church of Central Florida. He was born in Charleston, West Virginia on April 27, 1949, and moved to Florida in 1956. Senator Webster is a graduate of Georgia Tech where he earned his degree in Electrical Engineering in 1971. He also holds two Honorary Doctorate Degrees.

"I would like to acknowledge that any accomplishments I may have achieved come only from the investment that God and others have made in my life."