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N E W S R E L E A S E

For Details, Contact: Mike Dunmyer, Executive Director
Phone: 703-533-7571 Fax: 703-229-4103
Email: mike@oceanchampions.org

Ocean Champions Endorses Congressman Leonard Lance (R-NJ) *Fiscal Conservative Understands Importance of Protecting Natural Resources*

Washington, D.C. – October 7, 2010 – Ocean Champions, which works to build political power for the oceans by helping to elect pro-ocean candidates to the U.S. Congress is proud to announce its endorsement of Republican Congressman Leonard Lance for New Jersey's 7th District.

"When he was a New Jersey state Senator, Congressman Lance built a strong record on the environment," said David Wilmot, Ph.D., Ocean Champions' President and Co-Founder. "As a freshman Congressman, he continued to support important ocean conservation initiatives, and has earned our endorsement."

In the 111th Congress, Mr. Lance helped pass measures to preserve key species and threatened habitat. He supported bills to protect sea otters and marine turtles, and supported protection for key coastal habitat by voting for the Clean Estuaries Act, and the Omnibus Public Lands Act, which funds the purchase of coastal areas with important ecological value. It is clear that while Congressman Lance places significant value on fiscal responsibility, sustaining our natural resources for the long term are one of his priorities.

Congressman Lance combines his commitment to environmental stewardship with a belief in conservative economic principles, making him the perfect candidate to represent New Jersey's 7th District, and one of our ocean champions.

Ocean Champions is the only nonprofit political organization that endorses pro-ocean Congressional candidates and lobbies members of Congress on behalf of the oceans. To learn more about Ocean Champions or any of the candidates endorsed by Ocean Champions, visit www.oceanchampions.org.