



*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

WHAT: Youth and Legislators Tribute Pioneering MA Woman Legislator and Judge

WHEN: Friday, November 16, 2007, at 9:00 a.m.

WHERE: Massachusetts State House Grand Staircase

WHO: Nearly 100 members of DECA, an international student organization focused on leadership, career preparation and civic and social consciousness, will gather at the Massachusetts State House Friday morning to learn about the process of state and federal government and the importance of getting involved. In recognition of those lessons they – along with Senator Bruce Tarr and representatives from the Massachusetts Department of Education, Senator John Kerry’s office and Representative Jim McGovern’s office - will recognize a pioneering, former Massachusetts Legislator and Judge, Martha Ware.

BACKGROUND: DECA members are gathered in Boston this weekend for DECA’s North Atlantic Region Leadership Conference (NARCon.) The event prepares the high school students to assume leadership roles in their schools, communities and future careers. Throughout the conference the students will participate in workshops that focus on leadership, career pathways and planning for DECA’s program for the year. Ware’s award will be presented as part of NARCon’s Government Workshop Track.

Rather than “teaching to the test,” DECA programs incorporate real world experiences and business partnerships to teach students about leadership, focus them toward careers and instill a civic and social understanding. Their model, in practice of over 60 years, is exactly in line with the education and workforce needs identified by many of America’s leading corporations and education reform foundations.

CONTACT: John Fistolera at 703/371-9264 (cell) or 703/860-5000 (office)

###