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**UTAH SENATE PRESIDENT MICHAEL G. WADDUPS APPLAUDS ASCS FOR  
“SUPERB HEALTH CARE,” TRANSPARENCY AND COST-EFFECTIVE CARE**

**ALEXANDRIA, VA (FEBRUARY 12, 2009)** – Calling for ethical business practices, policies that support innovative and economical health care and a common sense approach to providing health care in Utah and the entire US, Utah State Senate President Michael G. Waddoups (R) praised ASCs for the outstanding surgical and patient care they have long provided in remarks he presented today before the Utah Ambulatory Surgery Center Association (UASCA).

“As health care providers,” said Waddoups, “you are making an impact where it counts—saving working families money and reducing costs for employers, while providing superb health care.”

Citing recent examples of questionable business practices that have negatively affected a large number of Americans and asserting that “greed and avarice [have] hurt this nation,” Waddoups praised ASCs saying, “Your organizations and industry [have] been transparent and [have] sought to provide quality health care to people across the State.” He added, “I’m still troubled that there are special-interest groups still trying to prevent you from doing this.”

“There is a role for Hospitals, but there is certainly an invaluable role for ASCs,” Waddoups continued as he alluded to many stories about the difficulties Utah residents report about working with the state’s insurance companies in recent years. “Again,” Waddoups added, “my request to insurance companies: It is time to put public interest first and to work with all providers to grant equal access to affordable care.”

In closing remarks, suggesting that “throwing money at problems is not always the right answer,” Waddoups came out in support of more competition and less bureaucracy. “We need to create a level playing field so that Big Corporate health cannot crowd out smaller players who are innovating,” he said. “We continue to need innovation and cost effective alternatives.”

Waddoups presented his remarks during UASCA’s annual education conference of the in Salt Lake City, Utah, on February 12, 2009. For the complete text of his remarks, contact Kay Tucker at the ASC Association.

According to ASC Association President Kathy Bryant, “The ASC Association commends Senator Waddoups, UASCA and all of UASCA’s members for their ongoing efforts to work with insurers and policy makers in Utah to enable ASCs in the state to continue to provide the outstanding surgical services and cost-effective, patient-focused care they offer.”

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The ASC Association is a national, nonprofit association that represents the interests of those who own, operate and seek the services of ASCs throughout the nation. The organization represents more than 2,600 ASCs, the professionals who provide care in such ASCs and the patients who seek care there. Visit the association online at [www.ascassociation.org](http://www.ascassociation.org).