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Representative Anna Eskamani Honored With 2019 Defender of Home Rule Award

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TALLAHASSEE – The Florida League of Cities presented Representative Anna Eskamani with a 2019 Defender of Home Rule Award during its 93rd annual conference in Orlando this past weekend.

"As lawmakers, we should be giving you resources to do good," said Eskamani as she accepted the award. State and city leaders should not be combative, she said. "We should actually be collaborating and supporting one another because some of the most wicked problems that we face in our state, whether it's homelessness, affordable housing, transportation ... these are issues that are best solved at the local level."

Eskamani vowed to do her part to help her colleagues know that Home Rule matters, "because if we care about local control and small government, then we should care about Home Rule. Thank you for this incredible honor."

This prestigious award was presented to Eskamani for her tireless efforts to defend and protect the principles of municipal Home Rule during the 2019 legislative session. Recipients of the Defender of Home Rule Award are legislators who consistently voted and advocated on behalf of the League and its members.

"Rep. Eskamani defended municipal Home Rule on every single bill that was heard in the House, and there were a lot," said Florida League of Cities First Vice President and Orlando City Commissioner Tony Ortiz as he presented Eskamani with the award. "She is a staunch supporter of local government, and we are honored to present her with this award."

Eskamani was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2018 and represents District 47. An Orlando native and the daughter of working-class immigrants from Iran, she is the first Iranian-American to be elected to any public office in Florida.

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Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities. Florida's cities are formed by their citizens

and governed by their citizens. The League is founded on the belief that local self-government is the keystone of American democracy. For more information, visit floridaleagueofcities.com.