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## **SIA Praises House Appropriations Subcommittee for Action in Support of U.S. Innovation**

### ***Industry Calls Funding for Science and Engineering Research Critical to Future U.S. Competitiveness***

**San Jose, CA – June 13, 2008** – The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) today commended Chairman Alan Mollohan (D-WV), Ranking Member Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) and members of the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) for approving significant increases for science and engineering research in the CJS appropriations bill for fiscal year (FY) 2009.

“Science and engineering research fuels U.S. technological innovation and long-term economic growth,” said SIA President George Scalise. “We are grateful to Chairman Mollohan, Ranking Member Frelinghuysen and the members of the Subcommittee for their leadership in support of U.S. innovation and competitiveness.”

The FY 2009 CJS appropriations bill reported out of the House CJS Appropriations Subcommittee late yesterday includes \$6.9 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and \$785 million for the National Institute of Technology and Standards (NIST). These budgets are in line with the doubling path outlined in the Democratic Innovation Agenda and the President’s American Competitiveness Initiative.

“This is an important step toward enhancing America’s science and technology enterprise. We urge both chambers of Congress to include these appropriations levels for these two vital research agencies in the final bill at a minimum. In addition, we urge the Administration and the Congress to take meaningful action on remaining components of SIA’s innovation agenda, including reforming the immigration system for highly educated workers and extending an enhanced R&D tax credit this year” concluded Scalise.

### ***About the SIA***

The SIA is the leading voice for the semiconductor industry and has represented U.S. semiconductor companies since 1977. Collectively, the chip industry employs a domestic workforce of 216,000 people. More information about the SIA can be found at [www.sia-online.org](http://www.sia-online.org).