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For more information:

Semiconductor Industry Association

John Greenagel

408.436.6600

Ian Steff

202.737.2602

[mailbox@sia-online.org](mailto:mailbox@sia-online.org)

**Semiconductor Industry Association Praises President Obama's Call to Double Funding for Basic Research**

**SAN JOSE, CA – April 27, 2009** – “The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) strongly supports President Obama’s call for doubling federal funding for basic scientific research over a 10-year period,” said SIA President George Scalise. “Enactment of this proposal will fulfill a bipartisan pledge made several years ago. With President Obama’s call to devote more than three percent of our GDP to research and development coupled with a bipartisan consensus on the importance of funding basic scientific research, we are very hopeful that research funding increases can be sustained over the long term.”

SIA also praised the President’s call for making the research and development tax credit permanent, improving student achievement in math and science, and emphasizing the development of new technologies to produce, use, and save energy.

“Global competition for leadership in science and technology is intensifying,” Scalise continued. “For more than 50 years, U.S. leadership in technology has been critical to the high productivity of American workers, our continuously improving standard of living, advances in medicine and health care, improved environmental protection, and homeland and national security. Investing in publicly funded basic research, strengthening the incentives for private R&D activities, improving student achievement in math and science and developing clean energy technologies will greatly enhance America’s ability to compete in today’s global environment. The ‘green jobs’ we are hoping to create depend on our ability to compete,” Scalise concluded.

**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 approximately 200,000 people. The semiconductor industry is America’s second-largest exporting industry. More information about the SIA can be found at [www.sia-online.org](http://www.sia-online.org).

