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SIA Applauds Senate Appropriators for Including Research Funding in Supplemental Spending Bill***Industry Calls Research One Critical Component of U.S. Innovation Agenda***

San Jose, CA – May 16, 2008 – The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) today applauded members of the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee for approving funding increases for science and engineering research in the supplemental appropriations bill before Congress this week.

“Science and engineering research is the backbone of American innovation, and we thank leaders of the Senate Appropriations Committee for underscoring this message by appropriating increases in research funding,” said SIA President George Scalise. “Funding for basic research is one of the three components of the U.S. innovation agenda and is critical to ensuring America’s continued innovation and technological leadership in the global economy.”

The Fiscal Year 2008 consolidated appropriations bill reported out of the Senate Appropriations Committee late yesterday includes \$300 million for basic research in the physical sciences and engineering, one important component of the U.S. innovation agenda. The bill appropriates \$200 million for science and engineering research and math and science education, at the National Science Foundation, and \$100 million for science and engineering research at the Office of Science in the Department of Energy.

“We are encouraged by this important step toward boosting U.S. competitiveness and urge both chambers of Congress to include these critical research appropriations in the final bill. In addition, we urge the Administration and the Congress to take meaningful action on remaining components of the Innovation Agenda, including reforming the immigration system for highly educated workers and extending an enhanced R&D tax credit,” said Willem Roelandts, Chairman of the Board, Xilinx, Inc. and SIA Board Chairman.

“Other nations have already adopted the components of an innovation agenda that our nation continues to talk about. Congress and the Administration now have an opportunity to fulfill a bipartisan commitment they made to American innovators,” Scalise concluded.

The SIA continues to actively promote these three key components or “pillars” of U.S. innovation leadership, and has been a leading advocate for passage of legislation to implement recommendations of the Democratic Innovation Agenda and the President’s American Competitiveness Initiative.

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.