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SIA Lauds Senate Passage of S. 761

- Bill by Senators Reid and McConnell would improve math and science education and support basic research -

San Jose, CA - April 25, 2007 - The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) today praised House passage of S. 761, the "America COMPETES Act," introduced by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY).

"Senate passage of S. 761 is a critical step forward in improving U.S. competitiveness by funding basic scientific research at U.S. universities, and funding math and science education initiatives that will help prepare more American students to pursue careers in science and engineering," said SIA President George Scalise. "Senate action on this bill, following yesterday's House passage of Congressman Bart Gordon's (D-TN) basic research and math and science education bills (H.R. 362 and H.R. 363), make it likely that significant innovation legislation will land on the President's desk this year."

The SIA also urged Congress to act on bipartisan proposals to double appropriations over the next seven years for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). "Leadership in science and technology is the foundation for U.S. economic growth, enhancing the productivity and increasing the wages for American workers, improving our standard of living, and ensuring national security," said Scalise. "Supporting basic research and math and science education are the keys to maintaining U.S. leadership. We are encouraged by Senate passage of S. 761 and hope that Congress will back up the legislation with appropriations to support its goals," 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 232,000 people. More information about the SIA can be found at www.sia-online.org.

