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SIA Lauds House Passage of H.R. 1867

- House Science and Technology Committee bill would boost U.S. competitiveness -

San Jose, CA - May 3, 2007 - The bill expands federal support for math and science education and basic research, which are the fulcrum points of an innovative domestic high tech industry. So said the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) today in praising House passage of H.R. 1867, the "National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2007," introduced by Congressman Brian Baird (D, WA), chairman of the House Science and Technology Committee's Subcommittee on Research and Science Education.

"The National Science Foundation has long played an important role in promoting innovation in this country," said SIA Chairman Richard K. Templeton, President and CEO of Texas Instruments. "H.R. 1867 builds on that legacy by supporting critical basic scientific research at U.S. universities and encouraging more American students to pursue careers in science and engineering."

"House action on this important bill further increases the momentum generated by last week's separate House and Senate action on innovation legislation," said SIA President George Scalise. "Congress is moving rapidly on an agenda to revitalize America's science and technology enterprise, which will have a direct, positive effect on the future economic competitiveness of the United States."

"Discovering the next generation of technology depends upon building the next generation of innovators," continued Templeton. "Investing in basic research and improving math and science education are vital to maintaining U.S. technology leadership and creating new economic opportunities. We are encouraged by House passage of H.R. 1867 and hope that Congress will back up the legislation with appropriations to support its goals," Templeton 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.

