



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information:

Semiconductor Industry Association

John Greenagel

408-436-6600

mailbox@sia-online.org

SIA Praises Congressional Supporters of Vital Chip Research

-Two dozen House Members issue letter to their colleagues calling for Focus Center Research Program funding -

San Jose, CA - July 11, 2007 - The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) today praised twenty-four Members of the House for signing a 'dear colleague' to the full House in support of continued funding for the Focus Center Research Program (FCRP). A similar letter was circulated by 20 Members of the Senate in the days before the July 4th recess.

"Leadership in technology is the foundation for America's world leading economic growth, high worker productivity and resulting high standard of living, and our national security. The Focus Center Research Program plays a central role in ensuring America's continued innovation leadership through advancing chip technology. The level of commitment to the program that these letters in both the House and Senate illustrate is very gratifying," said SIA President George Scalise.

The FCRP uses government and chip industry funds to provide long-term breakthrough research through U.S.-based university research guided strategically by both industry and the U.S. government.

"This program is a cornerstone of the U.S. semiconductor research strategy. The research conducted under FCRP continues to deliver breakthroughs that are critical to U. S. security and competitiveness," Scalise stated. "It's the only such program where U.S. Department of Defense funding is matched dollar-for-dollar by the private sector. We appreciate the continued efforts of FCRP's supporters in Congress, particularly Representative Eshoo in the House and Senators Bingaman and Chambliss."

Government funding for the FCRP has traditionally been split between the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and the Government/Industry Co-sponsorship of University Research (GICUR) program within the Director, Defense Research & Engineering (DDR&E). This year, the budget request for DARPA includes \$10 million for FCRP, but the budget request does not include any funds for GICUR. The House 'dear colleague' letter asks that an additional \$10 million be provided to the GICUR line item, thus bringing the total government FCRP contribution to \$20 million.

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.

