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CONTACT:

Kirk Monroe (202) 496-3269

Statement on Passage of America COMPETES Reauthorization Act

America's CEOs Applaud Congress on Enacting Bill to Boost U.S. Competitiveness and Growth

Washington – "Business Roundtable applauds the House for its swift action in passing the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act today. The bill will attract more young Americans into technical fields, expand the employment horizons and earnings potential of millions of new American workers, and strengthen America's future.

"The America COMPETES Act helps increase our nation's competitiveness by driving recruitment of K-12 math and science teachers, enhancing the skills of existing teachers, and increasing investments in both scientific research and math and science education. The reauthorization of this act will ensure America remains a global leader in technology, innovation and science in the 21st century," said Larry Burton, Executive Director, Business Roundtable.

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Business Roundtable is an association of chief executive officers of leading U.S. companies with nearly \$6 trillion in annual revenues and more than 12 million employees. Member companies comprise nearly a third of the total value of the U.S. stock markets and pay more than 60 percent of all corporate income taxes paid to the federal government. Annually, they pay more than \$167 billion in dividends to shareholders and the economy.

Business Roundtable companies give more than \$7 billion a year in combined charitable contributions, representing nearly 60 percent of total corporate giving. They are technology innovation leaders, with more than \$111 billion in annual research and development spending - nearly half of all total private R&D spending in the U.S.

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