

For Immediate Release

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SIIA Commends Effort to Enact National Data Security & Breach Notification Standard

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 20, 2011) –The Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA), the principal trade association for the software and digital content industries, today applauded Chairman Bono Mack and the House Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade Subcommittee for the passage of the Secure and Fortify Electronic (SAFE) Data Act (H.R. 2577), legislation to require greater protection of sensitive consumer data and timely notification in case of breach. SIIA President Ken Wasch issued the following statement:

“SIIA is committed to the goal of enacting legislation that will establish a meaningful national framework for data security and for breach notification. Such a framework is necessary to prevent breaches and enhance consumer confidence, predictability and certainty for consumers, consumer protection authorities and businesses.

“SIIA commends Chairman Bono Mack for her leadership in drafting this legislation, for reaching out to stakeholders for comment throughout the process and for moving forward with deliberate speed to advance the legislation. The legislation passed by the Subcommittee today contains many provisions that SIIA views as critical to setting a national standard on data security. These include:

- Establishment of sound information security practices,
- Preemption of state laws on data security and breach notification,
- A sound definition of Personal Information,
- Avoidance of technology mandates, and
- Establishment of breach requirements that do not create different levels of responsibility among different types of companies and business models.

“While there are still some areas where SIIA believes the legislation can still be improved, we applaud the Subcommittee for passing this legislation today, and we look forward to working with the Chairman and members of the Committee to enact a meaningful and effective national data security and breach notification framework.”

About SIIA

The Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) is the principal trade association for the software and digital content industry. SIIA provides global services in government relations, business development, corporate education and intellectual property protection to more than 500 leading software and information companies. For further information, visit: www.siiia.net.

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