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TeleCONSENSUS Hails House Vote to Keep Internet Regulation-Free

WASHINGTON, D.C.—TeleCONSENSUS praised the U.S. House of Representatives for defeating an amendment to H.R. 5252, the Communications Opportunity, Promotion, and Enhancement Act of 2006, that would have vastly expanded the “net neutrality” provisions in the legislation. The amendment was voted down yesterday by a vote of 269-152.

“TeleCONSENSUS is encouraged that the House recognizes the importance of telecommunications, and the Internet in particular, to the U.S. economy and has acted to keep the Internet free from regulation.” said William L. Kovacs, Vice President for Environment, Technology & Regulatory Affairs at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and spokesman for TeleCONSENSUS.

“This amendment sought to fix a problem that does not exist and would have deterred new investment in broadband network infrastructure, slowed the deployment of innovative technologies, left consumers with fewer choices and higher prices, and harmed the ability of United States to compete globally,” added Kovacs.

Led by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Black Chamber of Commerce, and the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, TeleCONSENSUS represents a vast and diverse business community. Its mission is to educate policymakers, the business community, and the public about the need for modernized federal telecommunications laws and the importance of advanced telecommunications services to the U.S. economy. TeleCONSENSUS has more than 190 member organizations representing trade associations, chambers of commerce, telecommunications providers and equipment manufacturers, businesses, and consumers.