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Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vice Chairman Hood Comments on the Nomination of Sandy K. Baruah as SBA Administrator

Alexandria, Va., June 30, 2008 – Nominated by President Bush, Baruah has spent the past two and a half years serving as the Assistant Secretary of the Economic Development Administration (EDA) at the Department of Commerce. In this capacity Baruah managed grants for ventures that promise to create jobs and strengthen regional economies. In the 2007 fiscal year, the EDA's investments totaled \$277 million.

Upon learning of Baruah's recent nomination as SBA Administrator, Vice Chairman Hood offered the following remarks..."I strongly support President Bush's nomination of Sandy Baruah to lead the SBA. Mr. Baruah excelled in his role as Assistant Secretary of EDA and will move on leaving behind a legacy of merit. I believe that his dedication to creating jobs and economic opportunity, coupled with his focus on competition, innovation and entrepreneurship, make Mr. Baruah very well suited to assume the responsibilities and further excel in the role of SBA Administrator."

Baruah currently awaits confirmation by the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

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