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**Telework Exchange Commends Congress for passing the
Telework Enhancement Act of 2010**

ALEXANDRIA, Va., November 18, 2010 – Telework ExchangeSM, a public-private partnership focused on promoting Federal telework, applauds the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate for passing the Telework Enhancement Act of 2010. The passed legislation grants eligible Federal employees the option to telework and requires Federal agencies to establish telework policies and designate a Telework Managing Officer. The Senate passed the final version of the legislation by unanimous consent on September 29 and the House passed it with a bipartisan vote of 254-152 on November 18.

“This legislation will require agencies to implement formal telework policies across the Federal government,” said Congressman John Sarbanes (D-MD). “A robust telework program will not only improve government operations during a disaster, it can also be used as a tool to reduce traffic congestion in the D.C. area. Telework has a positive impact on productivity, quality of life, and the environment. If fully integrated, it can save taxpayers money by increasing efficiency, reducing Federal office space, and improving employee retention.”

Congressman Sarbanes introduced the Telework Enhancement Act of 2010 (H.R. 1722) in the House of Representatives in March of 2009. The House initially passed the bill on July 14. At the same time Senator Daniel Akaka (D-HI) introduced a companion bill, co-sponsored by Senators Mary Landrieu (D-LA) and George Voinovich (R-OH), in the Senate. On May 24, 2010 the Senate passed the Telework Enhancement Act (S. 707) by unanimous consent. During the intervening months, members of both chambers collaborated to reconcile the two bills. The legislation now proceeds to President Obama’s desk for signature into law.

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“Telework is an invaluable asset to the Federal government, ” said Cindy Auten, General Manager, Telework Exchange. “It is a readily available productivity tool for employees, it saves agencies money, and finally, it helps to protect the environment. The Telework Enhancement Act of 2010 is a critical step in implementing and improving Federal telework programs, and we applaud Congress for championing telework and passing this key legislation. ”

The passage of this bill follows the Telework Exchange’s recent launch of the National Telework Week 2011, an initiative to encourage government agencies, organizations, and individuals to pledge to telework during the week of February 14-18, 2011. For more information or to pledge to telework during Telework Week, please visit www.teleworkexchange.com/teleworkweek.

About Telework Exchange

Telework Exchange is a public-private partnership focused on demonstrating the tangible value of telework and serving the emerging educational and communication requirements of the Federal teleworker community. The organization facilitates communication among Federal teleworkers, telework managers, and IT professionals. For more information on Telework Exchange, please visit www.teleworkexchange.com.