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Bartlett and Bryant Meet with Congress to Discuss Financial Literacy

Washington, D.C.—July 27, 2010—Today, Steve Bartlett, President and CEO for the Financial Services Roundtable, and John Hope Bryant, Founder, Chairman and CEO for Operation HOPE met with key lawmaker's to discuss efforts around financial literacy.

“If at any time in history it should be apparent to all in America and around the world that financial literacy is the new civil rights issue, and the first silver rights empowerment tool, it is in the backdrop of this global economic crisis,” said Operation HOPE Founder, Chairman and CEO John Hope Bryant. “When we live in a free enterprise system, but most people truly do not understand free enterprise nor the language of money, not only is sustainable overall economic growth at risk, but you and I truly are not free.”

“A healthy economy depends on a well-educated consumer,” said Steve Bartlett, President and CEO for the Roundtable. “The financial services industry continues to place a high priority on financial literacy, participating in over 26,000 classroom sessions, seminars and other financial education projects in 2009 alone.”

The Financial Services Roundtable and Operation HOPE are partners in a five year [Framework Agreement](#) on principles to strengthen financial literacy in the financial services industry. Learn more [here](#).

About Operation HOPE, Inc.

Founded in 1992, Operation HOPE is a Los Angeles-based global nonprofit and social investment organization providing financial literacy, credit counseling and management, computer training, lending services and inspiration to the economically disadvantaged. Operation HOPE has assumed the responsibility of piloting the Silver Rights Movement towards making free enterprise and capitalism relevant to all underserved communities. With more than 400 private sector partners, 3500 nonprofit organizations and schools, and 100 government partners in 70 major U.S. cities and seven provinces South Africa, HOPE has

raised more than \$500 million in its pursuit of educating, assisting and inspiring the next generation of global stakeholders in financial literacy, economic empowerment and silver rights. To learn more visit www.operationhope.org.

About the Roundtable

The Financial Services Roundtable represents 100 of the largest integrated financial services companies providing banking, insurance, and investment products and services to the American consumer. Member companies participate through the Chief Executive Officer and other senior executives nominated by the CEO.

Roundtable member companies provide fuel for America's economic engine, accounting directly for \$74.7 trillion in managed assets, \$1.1 trillion in revenue, and 2.3 million jobs.

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