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For Immediate Release

World's Largest HR Group Becomes First Employer Organization to Support Sexual Orientation Discrimination Protection

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 19, 2008 - The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) announced today that it supports federal legislation that would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. By doing so, SHRM becomes the first major employer organization to support this legislation.

The proposed bill, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), H.R. 3685, would prohibit discrimination in employment on the basis of sexual orientation.

The Society advocates that employment decisions should be made on the basis of an individual's qualifications for a job, and not on his or her sexual orientation. In supporting this protection, SHRM continues to set the agenda for the HR profession and demonstrate leadership among business organizations.

"The Society for Human Resource Management recognizes that employees should be evaluated on their job qualifications alone, and not on the basis of their sexual orientation," said SHRM President and CEO Susan R. Meisinger, SPHR. "This is a fundamental workplace principle."

"As the first employer organization to step forward and support federal legislation prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation, SHRM continues to set the bar for employment standards and practices," she said. "Our members - HR professionals from every industry - know this is the right thing to do, and we hope other business groups will add their support."

The House passed ENDA earlier this congressional session. The measure is expected to be considered by the Senate before Congress adjourns for the year.

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About the Society for Human Resource Management

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. Representing more than 240,000 members in 140 countries, the Society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession. Founded in 1948, SHRM has more than 575 affiliated chapters within the U.S. and subsidiary offices in China and India. Visit SHRM at www.shrm.org.