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**TEIR: Revised 'No-Match' Regulation
Endangers Millions of American Jobs**

AUSTIN, Texas (October 23, 2008) – Bill Hammond, president of the Texas Association of Business (TAB) and Texas Employers for Immigration Reform (TEIR) board member, today issued the following statement on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) revised "no-match" regulation that was released today and will be published in *The Federal Register* in the coming days:

"It's plain that DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff is thumbing his nose at Texas employers by re-issuing a 'no-match' regulation that is nearly identical to one that the court already rejected as misguided and extreme.

"Texas employers want a system that tells us if people on our payrolls are permitted to work in our country. Instead, Secretary Chertoff has chosen to repeat his past mistakes by proposing an error prone system again that endangers the employment of millions of Americans. We deserve better.

"The Chertoff rule assumes American employees are illegal unless their employment identification records identically match those in the Social Security Administration's database. If an employee cannot resolve a name or number discrepancy in 93 days, their employer will have to terminate the worker or face prosecution for employing undocumented aliens. Anyone who has tried to resolve an issue with Social Security knows how daunting that task can be.

"If Michael Chertoff gets his way, employers in Texas will be forced to seek protection from prosecution by terminating upwards of 750,000 workers across the state – and the impact on the Texas economy will be staggering.

"Texas employers suggested that Secretary Chertoff consider these extreme results and look at alternatives that would provide employers the information they need and a reasonable safe-harbor for dealing with these problems. We pointed to the unintended consequences of this rule: increased identity theft, increased underground economic activity, and the "need" for more regulations to address each new problem caused by this regulation. All of our suggestions – and those recommended by thousands of similarly situated employers across the country – were ignored.

"Washington should view employers as partners in economic growth and job creation

About Texas Employers for Immigration Reform

Texas Employers for Immigration Reform (TEIR) is a broad-based coalition of trade associations and business owners from across the Lone Star State. TEIR is calling for comprehensive immigration reform that addresses border security while ensuring employers have access to the labor force it needs. For information on TEIR, visit the coalition's Web site at www.txeir.org.