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**AdvaMed**

Advanced Medical Technology Association

**News**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 9, 2005**

**SABIR Act Promotes Medical Technology Innovation**

WASHINGTON, DC – AdvaMed President Stephen J. Ubl issued the following statement on today’s Capitol Hill event in support of the “Save America’s Biotechnology Innovative Research (SABIR) Act” (H.R. 943/S.1263):

“AdvaMed is pleased to participate in today’s event in support of legislation that will help medical technology manufacturers continue to provide Americans lifesaving and life-enhancing innovations.

I would like to thank Senator Bond and Representative Graves for co-authoring the “Save America’s Biotechnology Innovative Research (SABIR) Act.” This important legislation ensures that smaller medical technology companies, which constitute the vast majority of the industry, will be eligible for NIH-sponsored Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants. Without these grants, many early stage companies are unable to proceed with developing the next generation of medical technology innovations.

Many breakthrough medical technologies – from innovative heart pumps to new diagnostic tests to implantable monitors – emerge from small, start-up companies which are dependent on the help of venture financing. Unfortunately, under relatively new eligibility criteria, firms receiving more than 51% funding from venture capital are barred from receiving SBIR support. Cardiac Assist – the AdvaMed member company participating in the event today – showcases a prime example of a lifesaving technology that can be denied because of regulatory definitions. The SABIR Act will return the eligibility requirement to one that allows much needed funds to be awarded to companies whose products will provide the solutions to patients and their families, as well as for the challenges facing the U.S. health care system.”

*AdvaMed is the world's largest association representing manufacturers of medical devices, diagnostic products, and medical information systems. AdvaMed's more than 1,300 members and subsidiaries manufacture nearly 90 percent of the \$80 billion of health care technology products purchased annually in the United States, and more than 50 percent of the \$175 billion purchased annually around the world. AdvaMed members range from the largest to the smallest medical technology innovators and companies. More than 70 percent of our members have less than \$30 million in domestic sales annually.*

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