

Business-Higher Education Forum Supports Common Academic Standards

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Washington, DC (April 7, 2010) — The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Center has unveiled a set of college and career readiness standards, formally known as the Common Core State Standards Initiative. The Business-Higher Education Forum (BHEF) has established a strong working relationship with the NGA Center and the CCSSO and is pleased to support this state-led initiative to improve education.

The following can be attributed to BHEF Executive Director Brian K. Fitzgerald:

“BHEF has endorsed the Common Core State Standards in mathematics and language arts, the adoption of which represents one of its top P-12 education priorities. In addition, BHEF has called for the adoption of science standards. It is crucial to colleges and universities, as well as to corporations, that students graduating from high school are well-prepared for college and the workplace and can contribute to a highly qualified workforce that helps the nation compete globally.

David Jones, chairman of Humana, Inc., and Charlie Reed, chancellor of The California State University, who co-chair BHEF’s College Readiness, Access, and Success Initiative (CRI), are leading BHEF members to encourage the adoption of Common Core State Standards by states in place of the current patchwork of uneven state standards at the P-12 level.

As the states begin to adopt and implement the Common Core State Standards, BHEF urges governors and legislators to join a national conversation to advance common performance-based education assessments.”

To view the standards, please visit: <http://www.corestandards.org/>

About the Business-Higher Education Forum

BHEF brings together an extraordinary coalition of corporate, academic, and foundation members to influence public policy and inspire other leaders to act. BHEF’s membership includes numerous nationally recognized corporate and higher education executives who provide leadership in education, nationally and locally. To learn more, visit BHEF’s Web site at <http://www.bhef.com>. For BHEF publications, see <http://www.bhef.com/publications/pubs.asp>.