

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: **Jennifer Page**
(202) 835-3460

Ken Johnson
Senior Vice President

PhRMA Statement on Jack Abramoff

Washington, D.C. (March 20, 2006) — PhRMA Senior Vice President Ken Johnson issued the following statement today:

"The personal aide's trip had absolutely no impact on energy legislation the Energy and Commerce Committee was considering in 2003. It is my recollection, as former deputy chief of staff at the Energy and Commerce Committee, that this young staffer had no part in any discussion regarding the development funds provision. It is also important to point out that Chairman Billy Tauzin never met Jack Abramoff and, in fact, voted against the tribal gambling provision included in the Energy Act of 2003. "

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) represents the country's leading pharmaceutical research and biotechnology companies, which are devoted to inventing medicines that allow patients to live longer, healthier, and more productive lives. PhRMA companies are leading the way in the search for new cures. PhRMA members alone invested an estimated \$39.4 billion in 2005 in discovering and developing new medicines. Industry wide research and investment reached a record \$51.3 billion in 2005.

###

PhRMA Internet Address: <http://www.phrma.org>

For information on how innovative medicines save lives, visit: <http://www.innovation.org>

For information on the Partnership for Prescription Assistance, visit: <http://www.pparx.org>

For information on the danger of imported drugs, visit: <http://www.buysafedrugs.info>