FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE                      CONTACT: Barry Toiv
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HIGHER EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS REACT TO
DHS CHEMICAL MONITORING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on Friday, November 2, released a pre-
publication, revised list of chemicals that industry, research institutions, and others must
inventory and report on because of their potential for misuse and criminal activity. As
expected, the revised “Appendix A” of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards
lists fewer chemicals than initially proposed and includes specific threshold amounts for
the chemicals listed.

Following is a statement on the DHS announcement by the American Council on
Education, the Association of American Universities, the Campus Safety, Health and
Environmental Management Association, the Council on Governmental Relations, the
National Association of College and University Business Officers, and the National
Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

Colleges and universities are committed to complying with the new DHS chemical
security standards. They recognize the need for increased vigilance to prevent the theft
or release of chemicals intended for research and teaching purposes to terrorists or other
individuals who might misuse them. To this end, we have consulted with the Department
of Homeland Security to ensure that the quantities of chemicals contained in the final
version of Appendix A are appropriate to the relatively low risk of chemical diversions
associated with a majority of college and university laboratories and other facilities.

The original published draft would have imposed on our campuses unnecessarily
extensive rules for reporting and controlling access to even very small amounts of
chemicals with minimal risk. These rules would not have made campuses appreciably
more secure but would have inadvertently weakened national security by interfering with
science and engineering education and research on college and university campuses.

We are pleased that DHS has heard our concerns and worked with our associations to
address them. We will continue our collaborative effort with DHS to finalize remaining
issues related to the full implementation of the new rules.

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