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April 8, 2017

To the esteemed students participating in the 2017 Honda Campus All-Star Challenge:

Congratulations on your advancement in the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC) program and earning a place to compete at the 2017 National Championship Tournament. Your determination, hard work and breadth of knowledge is undeniably impressive and inspiring to everyone who is a part of the program. Your participation not only grows the distinguished HCASC community, but also shines a light on the great work and talent at HBCUs across the country.

I too started my college education at an HBCU, earning an undergraduate degree from Morehouse College. Today, I work with my colleagues in Washington including the members of the Congressional Black Caucus – many of whom graduated from and represent the districts of the institutions participating in this weekend's competition – to empower and provide a voice for our communities. We cannot accomplish this task alone. We are counting on you, the future leaders of our country, to use your talents and passion as tools to move our country and communities forward.

This weekend is only the beginning of what will surely be a bright and fruitful future for you. No matter the outcome of the rounds, you should be very proud of yourselves. While more than 125,000 students have participated in the program over the last 28 years, only about 6,000 of those students were able to successfully advance to the National Championship Tournament – an accomplishment you have now achieved. Continue to aim high, follow your dreams and continue the legacy of success.

On behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus, I salute you and hope you enjoy your experience this weekend.

Sincerely,

Cedric L. Richmond
Chairman

