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NEWS RELEASE

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CDFA Releases 2011 National Volume Cap Report -- Cap-Subject Private Activity Bond Issuance Down 13% in 2011 --

Columbus, OH – National private activity bond issuance decreased 13% in 2011, according to the 2011 National Volume Cap Report released today by the Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA). The 2011 National Volume Cap Report provides complete data for the use of volume cap and the issuance of cap-subject private activity bonds nationwide.

Much like broader municipal bonds, which decreased by nearly one-third in 2011, private activity bonds saw decreased activity in 2011 from 2010. Limited issuance of volume cap-subject bonds meant states again saw an increase in end-of-year expiring volume cap and carryforward of volume cap into 2012.

The full report is available online with CDFA's interactive and searchable <u>National Volume Cap Map</u>. To download the full report, <u>click here</u>.

"Despite a challenging environment in 2011, issuers throughout the country did excellent work to make these critical economic development finance tools available to the businesses that were looking to expand and grow," said CDFA President & CEO Toby Rittner. "The reforms CDFA advocates in the *American Manufacturing Bond Finance Act* would do even more to make tax-exempt bonds, particularly industrial development bonds, available to small- and mid-size American manufacturers."

Industrial development bonds (IDBs) saw issuance of \$373.9 million in 2011, a fourth consecutive year of decreased issuance from a high of \$3.1 billion in 2007. With IDB project size capped at \$10 million, projects limited to 1970s-era definitions of manufacturing and other restrictions, small- to mid-size American manufacturers continue to be hindered from using tax-exempt bonds to solve their capital access challenges.

Industrial development bonds are issued by local issuing authorities and allow small manufacturers to borrow money at lower cost for expansion and other capital expenses.

In June 2012, CDFA announced the *American Manufacturing Bond Finance Act* with a list of seven reforms to strengthen IDBs and make these tools viable for manufacturers looking to expand and create jobs in the United States.

CDFA gathered the information for the report from end-of-year reports and surveys with the allocating authority in each state. As a leader in the development finance industry, CDFA serves as the principal source for private-activity bond volume cap data, reporting and trends.

The **Council of Development Finance Agencies** is a national association dedicated to the advancement of development finance concerns and interests. CDFA is comprised of the nation's leading and most knowledgeable members of the development finance community representing public, private and non-profit entities alike. For more information about CDFA, visit www.cdfa.net.