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Environment America Urges Support of the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010 (HR 5019)

Dear Representative:

Tomorrow, the House of Representatives will vote on the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010 (H.R. 5019). We strongly urge you to vote in favor of this legislation which will help put America on a path to a cleaner environment, lower emissions and energy security.

Forty percent of America's energy is consumed in the buildings where we live and work. Much of that energy is wasted, leading to excess pollution and unnecessarily high energy bills. This undermines our environment and our economic competitiveness.

The Home Star residential retrofit program is a critical piece of our nation's strategy to improve the energy performance of our existing buildings. By providing rebates and incentives to homeowners who invest in the energy efficiency of their homes, it will put Americans to work making our homes more energy efficient and will help consumers save money while reducing pollution.

If fully funded at \$6 billion, the Home Star program would reduce energy consumption by the equivalent of three coal-fired power plants each year, while saving consumers between \$200 and \$500 per year on their home energy bills. In addition, the bill would create an estimated 168,000 jobs. Many of these new jobs would be in the construction sector, which has been one of the hardest hit industries in the nation, with 1.6 million construction jobs disappearing during the recession, and the unemployment rate for American construction workers still over 20 percent.

Environment America has worked closely with a wide array of stakeholders to develop this program and build support for it. We are counting on your vote in support of the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010.

Sincerely,

Environment Arizona • Environment California • Environment Colorado • Environment Connecticut • Environment Florida
Environment Georgia • Environment Illinois • Environment Iowa • Environment Maryland • Environment Maine
Environment Massachusetts • Environment Michigan • Environment Minnesota • Environment New Hampshire • Environment New Jersey
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Executive Director

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