

## GONZALEZ VOTES FOR “MADE IN AMERICA” ENERGY-EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGY

**Washington, DC** - Congressman Charles A. Gonzalez (TX – 20) issued the following statement after the House of Representatives passed the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act (H.R. 5019), which will provide immediate incentives for consumers who renovate their homes to become more energy-efficient:

“This Home Star bill brings the words ‘Made in America’ back into our homes,” said Congressman Gonzalez. “These energy-efficient renovation incentives will create much needed construction jobs that cannot be outsourced to other countries while using energy saving products manufactured in the USA. Initiatives like these will help us achieve a more energy-efficient economy while creating jobs and saving money for American families.”

### Specifics of the Legislation

- This bill would boost our construction and manufacturing industries in the short term by creating jobs immediately. More than 90% of the materials and products used in eligible measures are made in the U.S. In the long run, it will help rebuild the foundation of our economy by encouraging American innovation and entrepreneurship in the growing clean energy industry.
- The bill features two levels of rebates that will help an estimated 3 million American homeowners. The Silver Star program would provide up-front rebates of up to \$3,000 for the installation of proven energy-saving technologies, such as insulation, duct sealing, window and door improvements, air sealing, and advanced water heaters. The Gold Star program rewards homeowners with up to \$8,000 for conducting a comprehensive energy audit and substantially reducing their energy use at home.
- This legislation builds on our previous accomplishments offering tax credits for energy-efficient home improvements in the Recovery Act. Through the end of 2010, homeowners can receive a tax credit for 30 percent of the cost of these improvements, up to \$1,500.
- The Home Star Energy Retrofit Act has received bipartisan support, and has been

endorsed by a broad range of business, labor, environmental, and consumer groups, including the National Association of Manufacturers, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the National Association of Home Builders.

More information is available at <http://www.energysavers.gov/financial>