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HOME STAR ACT PASSES THE HOUSE

–Welch’s \$6 Billion Home Retrofits Act Receives Bipartisan Support–

Washington, D.C. — May 6, 2010 — By a vote of 246 to 161 the House of Representatives today voted to approve the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010 (H.R. 5019), which authorizes creation of a national energy retrofit program for American homeowners.

The program is designed to spur home energy retrofits by providing direct incentives to install American-made, energy-saving products and conduct whole-home retrofits. The legislation will help three million families save an estimated \$200-\$500 a year on their utility bills, saving homeowners close to \$10 billion in the next decade.

"We applaud the U.S. House on the bipartisan passage of the HOME STAR legislation," said Mike Rogers, Senior Vice President for GreenHomes America and the Chairman of industry trade group Efficiency First following the vote. "HOME STAR will create good American jobs in construction, manufacturing and related industries. It will help American homeowners improve the efficiency of their homes and save money. And it will provide a solid foundation for our country's energy policy and energy security. We encourage the Senate to act quickly to get the HOME STAR bill to the President's desk and get our workers back on the job."

Authored by Rep. Peter Welch (D-Vt.), the Act received key endorsements from supporters ranging from President Obama to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers. President Obama endorsed the initiative last December, and his administration said in a statement Wednesday that it "applauds the bipartisan efforts that have brought H.R. 5019 to the House floor."

Introduced by Welch on April 14, H.R. 5019 was cosponsored by a bipartisan group of legislators, including Chairman Ed Markey (D-Mass.), Rep. Vern Ehlers (R-Mich.), Rep. Dennis Cardoza (D-Calif.) and Chairman Henry Waxman (D-Calif.).

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Syracuse-based GreenHomes is the largest industry-accredited, single-source provider of home performance contracting (HPC) in the state of New York. GreenHomes offers an award-winning home improvement service that significantly enhances the comfort, energy efficiency, and air quality of existing single-family homes. GreenHomes delivers a full line of services including comprehensive home assessments, windows and doors, furnaces and boilers, on-demand hot water heating, insulation and air-sealing, indoor air quality, and solar systems. GreenHomes also helps homeowners conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions to help them do their part to protect the environment and reduce the country's dependence on foreign oil. GreenHomes works with *Home Performance with ENERGY STAR* and is a Building Performance Institute (BPI) accredited organization. For more information on GreenHomes, call 1.315.474.6549 or visit www.greenhomesamerica.com