

10/19/2007 Moran Supports Expansion of Renewable Sources of Energy

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Tours Solar-Powered Home Designed by Kansas State University Students

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced House passage of legislation he sponsored calling on the United States to secure 25 percent of its energy from renewable sources by 2025. Moran also toured a sun-powered home designed by Kansas State University students that is on display in the 2007 Solar Decathlon this week in Washington, D.C.

"Renewable sources of energy, such as solar power, will play an increasingly important role in meeting our nation's energy needs," Moran said. "It is fitting that in the same week as visitors to our nation's capital see how advances in solar technology can power homes, the House of Representatives pledged to help America produce cleaner energy and become more energy independent."

While the 25x25 initiative encourages solar energy, it also supports the expansion of wind power and biofuels. Kansas is a leading producer of biofuels, producing more than 270 million gallons of ethanol a year. Production in Kansas is expected to nearly double when several plants under construction or nearing construction open in the coming years.

"Kansas has an abundance of wind and our farmers grow crops that can be turned into fuel," Moran said. "Utilizing renewable resources in a responsible fashion is good for the environment, good for the Kansas economy and helps move our nation toward energy independence."

As part of his focus on promoting renewable energy, Moran last week visited BMK Plumbing and Solar of the Midwest, a Salina-based company specializing in solar systems for homes. This week, Moran met with Kansas State University students during the 2007 Solar Decathlon. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Solar Decathlon is a competition where teams design, build and operate homes powered entirely by the sun.

Moran declared his support of the 25x'25 vision when it was first announced last summer. He is also a sponsor of legislation that would extend current tax incentives for solar-powered technology so that it can become a larger component of America's energy portfolio.

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