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## **PIMA Applauds Montgomery County (MD) For Passage of Amendment Requiring Energy Star Performance In Homes and Other Buildings**

Bethesda, MD, April 23, 2008 –The Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA), located in Montgomery County, congratulates the Montgomery County Council on passage of legislation that would require commercial, multi-family residential, and single-family residential buildings to achieve the Energy Star<sup>®</sup> performance level for energy efficiency.

In the letter supporting Councilmember Berliner’s amendment to Bill #30-07, Jared Blum, president of PIMA, wrote, “This measure will lower the climate change impacts that are attributed to buildings, while at the same time saving County residents money and increasing the affordability of owning and operating a home. Also, this legislation will raise the quality of home construction in Montgomery County to a new level which will further distinguish our County as a desirable place to live.”

Under the new legislation, the county would become the first in the country to require that new single-family homes and townhouses meet Energy Star standards created by the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) to encourage the use of energy-efficient windows, tightly sealed structures and effective insulation.

As part of the country’s efforts to prevent air pollution and reduce the emissions of global warming gases, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched the Energy Star Homes program in 1995. Household energy use is a major source of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions in the U.S., accounting for about 20 percent of total emissions. Home energy use is a significant cause of other air pollutants as well, such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter. The Energy Star Homes program reduces energy use and prevents pollution by encouraging builders and developers to construct energy-efficient homes through the use of improved insulation, tighter ducts, high efficiency heating and air conditioning equipment, and high performance windows.

### **About PIMA**

*For 20 years, the Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA) has served as the unified voice of the rigid polyiso industry proactively advocating for safe, cost-effective, sustainable and energy efficient construction. PIMA’s members, who first came together in 1987, include a synergistic partnership of polyiso manufacturers and industry suppliers. Polyiso is one of the Nation’s most widely used and cost-effective insulation products available.*

For continued updates and additional information on this important topic visit [www.polyiso.org](http://www.polyiso.org), or contact a polyiso manufacturer.