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**Illinois Representative Karen May Awarded U.S. Green Building Council's 2010
Leadership Award**

*Award recognizes outstanding individuals and organizations that signify vision, leadership and
commitment to the evolution of green building design and construction*

(Washington, DC) Oct 26, 2010 – The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) has awarded State Rep. Karen May (D-Highland Park) with a 2010 Leadership Award in the Public Sector Category. The Leadership Awards recognize outstanding individuals and organizations that signify vision, leadership and commitment to the evolution of green building design and construction.

“State Representative Karen May has been absolutely critical to our efforts to have every child in America educated in a green school in this generation and in doing so has redefined the role of a fiscally-responsible, forward-thinking state legislator in this new green, clean energy economy” said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO and Founding Chair of the U.S. Green Building Council. “Because of her leadership in the public sector, school children in nearly every state across the country will be educated in schools that promote health and learning, create jobs, conserve energy and natural resources and save taxpayer money” continued Fedrizzi.

Rep. May is a founding member of USGBC's 50 for 50 Green Schools Caucus Initiative and a green schools champion, helping to further USGBC's vision of green schools for everyone within this generation. Rep May has dedicated herself to the welfare of schools, which can be seen through her authorship of House Joint Resolution 45. HJR 45 created a LEED Task Force chaired by the USGBC Illinois Chapter and is tasked with making recommendations to the Illinois General Assembly by Nov. 1, 2010, on a prospective state program for greening existing schools and potential funding sources for such a program.

“I share the U.S. Green Building Council's vision to create healthy, high-performing schools within a generation and am proud to work with them to achieve this goal”, said Rep. Karen May.

“As state lawmakers, we have a paramount responsibility to make sure that our children are educated in healthy school buildings. Students learn about saving our planet and have the very best learning environments. This is an area where we need to lead—not follow,” added Rep. May.

Rep. May, along with four other Leadership Award recipients will be honored at USGBC's annual Greenbuild conference, which will be held November 17-19, 2010 in Chicago. This year the awards are presented in three categories - Leadership in the Private Sector, Leadership in the Public Sector, and Leadership in the NGO Sector. For more information about green schools visit: centerforgreenschools.org.

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