

STATE SENATOR • HANSEN CLARKE • 1ST DISTRICT

# Clarke Press Release

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## **Senator Clarke Commends Detroit Buildings for EPA “Energy Star” Designation**

*Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Detroit VA Medical Center Acknowledged*

LANSING—Senator Clarke commended the conservation efforts of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center and Detroit VA Medical Center after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced last Thursday that the buildings were awarded Energy Star status. In 2007, the EPA designated 176 office buildings, schools, hospitals, banks, hotels, supermarkets and college dormitories in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin for their work to save energy.

“This is great news for Detroit,” said Sen. Clarke. “As a major urban area, we’re not always known for our conservation and environmental efforts, but here we have some of our main metropolitan fixtures receiving this great recognition. They can serve as a great example for embracing energy conservation.”

Nationally, nearly 4,100 buildings and manufacturing plants had earned EPA’s Energy Star through the end of 2007. More than 1,400 were added in 2007 alone. The total includes about 1,500 office buildings, 1,300 supermarkets, 820 schools and 250 hotels. Also, more than 185 banks, financial centers, hospitals, courthouses, warehouses, dormitories and—for the first time—big-box retail buildings earned the Energy Star. More than 35 manufacturing plants such as cement, auto assembly, corn refining and—for the first time—petroleum refining are also being recognized.

“These buildings are among the nation’s top energy savers,” said EPA Region 5 Administrator Mary A. Gade. “They use about one-third less energy than average buildings, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions and saves money.”

In total, these award-winning commercial buildings and manufacturing plans have saved nearly \$1.5 billion annually in lower energy bills and prevented carbon dioxide emissions equal to the emissions associated with electricity use of more than 1.5 million American homes for a year, relative to typical buildings.

The complete list of buildings by state is at <http://www.energystar.gov/labeledbuildings>. More information on Energy Star is at <http://www.energystar.gov>.

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