



FEDERATION OF AMERICAN CONSUMERS AND TRAVELERS

- NEWS RELEASE -

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stricter Tax Rules Now Apply to Energy-saving Home Improvements

EDWARDSVILLE, IL, February 1 2011 - Vicki Rolens, Managing Director of the Federation of American Consumers (FACT), is advising members that there are tougher rules for claiming tax credit for energy-saving home improvements you may make in 2011.

You can only claim a 10% credit for qualified energy property placed in service in 2011 up to a \$500 lifetime limit (with no more than \$200 from windows and skylights).

In addition, the credit you claim for any year can't exceed \$500 less the total of the credits you claimed for all earlier tax years ending after Dec. 31, 2005. The amount you claim for windows and skylights in a year cannot exceed \$200 less the total of the credits you claimed for these items in all earlier tax years ending after Dec. 31, 2005.

The credit is equal to the sum of:

1. 10% of the amount you pay or incur for qualified energy efficient improvements (such as insulation, exterior windows or doors that meet certain energy efficient standards) installed during the year, and
2. The amount of the residential energy property expenses you paid or incurred during the year.

The credit for residential energy property expenses cannot exceed:

1. \$50 for an advanced main circulating fan;
2. \$150 for any qualified natural gas, propane, or hot water boiler; and
3. \$300 for any item of energy efficient property (advanced types of energy saving equipment, such as electric heat pumps, meeting specific energy efficient standards).

This news release has been issued by the Federation of American Consumers and Travelers (FACT), a consumer organization formed under the not-for-profit corporation laws of the District of Columbia in 1984. FACT serves more than 1 million consumers nationwide. Additional information on FACT may be found in the Encyclopedia of Associations, and by visiting the association's Web site (www.usafact.org). Informative, unbiased news bulletins are regularly disseminated by FACT to help its members remain current on matters which might seriously impact their lives. The association does not offer support to -- and does not receive support from -- any political party or movement. In addition to publishing consumer-related reports, the association provides more than 30 benefits for its members, ranging from medical insurance and dental discounts to prescription drug savings and scholarships. FACT's administrative office is located at 318 Hillsboro Avenue, Edwardsville, IL 62025