Dear Oregon Legislators,

As a resident of Central Oregon, as a former board member, and current facilities committee member, of the Bethlehem Inn, and as the founder of the non-profit Zero Energy Project; I strongly recommend that you add or expand provisions to the clean energy jobs bill that will bring the benefits of carbon and energy savings to the poorest residents of Oregon. This should be a primary focus of the bill.

These provisions could include aggressive incentives and subsidies for low income people to upgrade the energy efficiency of their existing homes and install solar collectors; aggressive incentives and subsidies for landlords who own apartment buildings with low income residents to upgrade the energy efficiency of their apartment buildings and install solar collectors where possible; aggressive subsidies and incentives for small businesses to upgrade the energy efficiency of their facilities and add solar collectors where possible, and aggressive incentives and subsidies for builders to construct zero energy ready homes and apartment buildings for low income people.

These provisions should be designed to ensure that low income homeowners and renters and small business people all benefit from the lower-cost of living resulting from the energy savings.

The clean energy jobs bill should be a win-win-win for everybody. For builders, for developers, for low income homeowners, and for low income apartment residents, as well as for job creation, for the environment and for future generations. Creating smart aggressive energy incentives and subsidies for getting homes and apartments for low-income people on the path to zero energy/zero carbon will ensure this triple win.

Thank you,

Joe Emerson Joe@zeroenergyproject.org