

February 1, 2021

Dear Chair, Vice Chairs, and Members of the House Committee On Energy and Environment,

I'm writing to strongly encourage you to support the wisdom and justice embodied in the Energy Affordability Act (HB 2475).

The Act authorizes the Public Utility Commission to consider that members of low income residential environmental justice communities (as defined in the act) spend proportionally more of their income on energy needs than other communities, and to develop flexible rate structures (e.g., discounts) to address this inequity.

The Act also recognizes that environmental justice communities are "traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards," and authorizes public utilities to provide financial assistance to organizations to represent such communities in regulatory proceedings before the Public Utility Commission.

I strongly encourage you to support the passage of the Energy Affordability Act (HB 2475).

Sincerely,

Joseph Miller
Portland, Oregon