

TO: House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment  
RE: Support of HB 3081  
DATE: February 28th, 2025

Dear Chair Representative John Lively and members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment,

My name is Dulasi Tennakoon, a senior undergraduate majoring in Politics, Policy, Law, and Ethics at Willamette University, and I am writing to express my strong **support** for House Bill 3081. By establishing a centralized resource for energy efficiency incentives and assistance, this bill removes bureaucratic barriers that disproportionately impact low-income and marginalized communities. This streamlined approach ensures that all residents, regardless of socioeconomic status or linguistic background, can easily access essential resources.

In 2024, the ODOE allocated **\$1.2 million to 13 local governments** to support energy efficiency projects, with grants ranging from **\$50,000 to \$115,000**. Additionally, 18 low- and moderate-income property owners received a total of **\$135,000 in incentives** to enhance energy efficiency. While these initiatives are commendable, the **lack of a unified, accessible system** leaves many vulnerable populations struggling to navigate the process.

Furthermore, this bill directly addresses **environmental racism**, which disproportionately burdens communities of color with higher energy costs and inefficient housing. Many **historically marginalized communities** reside in older, poorly insulated homes that require urgent energy efficiency upgrades. Without proper outreach and accessible application processes, these communities **remain systematically excluded** from the benefits of state and federal energy programs. House Bill 3081 ensures that these individuals receive the support they need to lower their utility bills, reduce energy consumption, and contribute to a sustainable future.

The **universal application process** proposed in this bill is especially crucial. Many residents who qualify for energy efficiency programs fail to apply due to complicated and fragmented application procedures. A single, streamlined process will eliminate confusion, increase participation rates, and allow households to fully utilize all available incentives.

In conclusion, House Bill 3081 is not just about energy efficiency, it is about **equity, accessibility, and environmental justice**. By supporting this legislation, we take a significant step toward ensuring that all Oregonians, **regardless of income, race, or language**, can access the resources they need to reduce energy costs and contribute to a cleaner, more sustainable state.

**Energy Access for All, Not Just a Few!**

I urge you to support this bill and work toward an energy system that serves everyone fairly and effectively.

Sincerely,  
Dulasi Tennakoon  
Student, Oregon Resident