



Franciscan Action Network

Transforming the World in the Spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare

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**Sample Letter Text for Action Alert to
Members of the House Energy & Commerce Committee
May 2009**

Dear Member of Congress,

As a person of faith, I urge you to strengthen and adequately fund provisions that protect poor and vulnerable people at home and abroad as the House Energy and Commerce Committee considers the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009.

I believe we need urgent action to address the growing impact of climate change which will fall heaviest on persons who are poor and vulnerable. People who are poor must not bear an undue burden of the impacts of climate change or the global adjustments needed to address it.

In particular, I ask you to sponsor measures to provide significant funding for international adaptation. With the Franciscan Action Network and other faith leaders, I urge you to support:

- * At least 3.5% of the value of carbon credits approximately \$3.5 billion - in the first year of the international adaptation program to help poor people in the most vulnerable developing countries adapt to climate change, and
- * An additional 0.5% annually until a total of 7% - approximately \$7 billion -for international adaptation programs is reached in year eight.

I also urge you to support protections for low-income people in the United States:

- * Ensure that adequate funding is provided to low-income working families and individuals most in need, through a comprehensive system including direct consumer rebates, to help offset any potential rise in energy prices resulting from climate policies.

These requests will require sacrifice in our nation; however, they arise out of my faith commitment inspired by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi that we must uphold both persons who are poor and the larger planet we share.

Thank you for considering these views as this legislation moves forward. You and your colleagues will be in my prayers.

Sincerely,