

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 17, 2026

The Honorable Robert Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy:

As you know, the Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act for Fiscal Year 2027 (P.L. 119-103) requires the Department of Health and Human Services to distribute no less than 90 percent of its total LIHEAP allotment by November 1, 2026. Given the extraordinary pressure consumers will face this winter, we ask that you make this distribution well before the deadline.

October marks the start of the heating season for many states, and with temperatures already dropping, low-income families and seniors are feeling additional strains on their household budgets. As the main federal program benefiting these individuals with their energy bills, LIHEAP provides critical assistance to vulnerable families and seniors during the cold winter and hot summer months. State agencies and tribes are already activating their LIHEAP programs for the coming winter. A quick release of funding will ensure no gaps in assistance.

We look forward to working with you on this critical program. Thank you for your attention to our concerns and those of our constituents.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



Angela D. Alsobrooks
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



John Hickenlooper
United States Senator



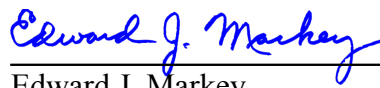
Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



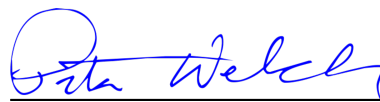
Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



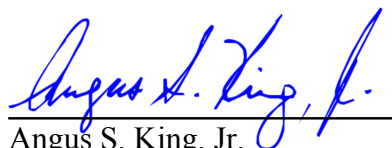
Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



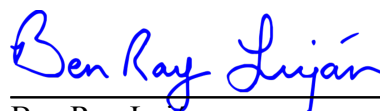
Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



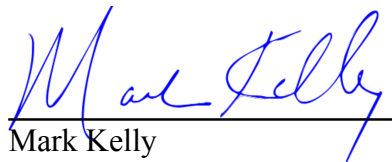
Peter Welch
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



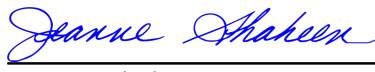
Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



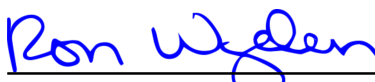
Tina Smith
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Lisa Blunt Rochester
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator