

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 6, 2023

The Honorable Shalanda Young
Director
White House Office of Management and
Budget
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services
330 C Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Director Young and Secretary Becerra:

We appreciate the Administration's strong support for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). As high energy costs and increased demand for LIHEAP assistance continue to put a strain on program resources, we urge you to include supplemental LIHEAP funding in any additional request you submit for FY24 appropriations.

As the main federal program that helps low-income households and seniors with their energy bills, LIHEAP provides critical assistance during the cold winter and hot summer months. Amid increased energy prices resulting from Russia's war in Ukraine and inflationary pressures, LIHEAP has become even more important for helping families pay their energy bills without foregoing other essentials. Last year, with your help, we worked to reduce this burden by providing \$2 billion in emergency supplemental LIHEAP funding, reaching a total of \$6.1 billion for FY23.

Unfortunately, supplemental funding is needed once again as we head into another winter heating season. Winter heating prices are expected to remain roughly as high as last year, and LIHEAP applications are up significantly. According to the National Energy Assistance Directors' Association, states are reporting increases of up to 20% in the number of LIHEAP applications since last year. With limited funding, states will face tough choices about the amount of assistance they can provide and the number of people they can serve.

In preparation for winter heating season, ensuring that LIHEAP is well-funded will help guarantee that the program has the resources it needs to help as many eligible low-income households and seniors as possible. To that end, we urge you to continue your strong support of vulnerable Americans by requesting supplemental funding for this critical program. Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this request.

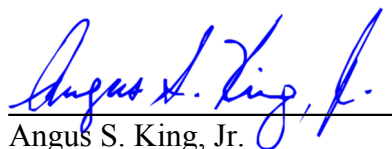
Sincerely,



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



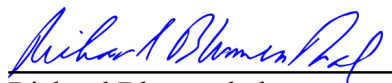
Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



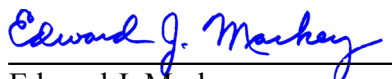
Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



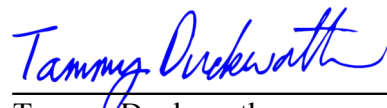
Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



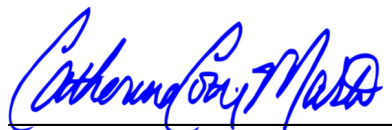
Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator




Edward J. Markey
United States Senator




Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



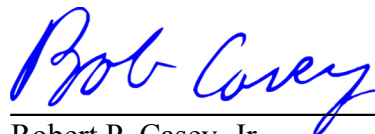
Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



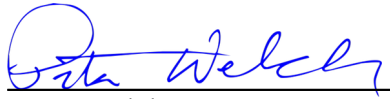
Tina Smith
United States Senator



Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator



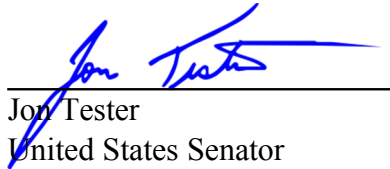
Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



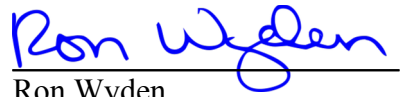
Peter Welch
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



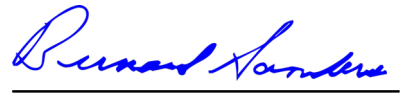
Jon Tester
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator