

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 14, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Becerra:

With the passage of the Continuing Resolution (CR), we write to urge the Department of Health and Human Services to release Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds as quickly and at the highest level possible.

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. 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.

Given the alarming increase in energy costs that is forecast for this winter, we worked to secure an additional \$1 billion in emergency funding for LIHEAP in the recently enacted short-term CR. It is critical that this funding, as well as the significant base funding available under the CR, is distributed as quickly as possible so it reaches these households in time for the winter heating season.

As such, we request that you immediately release these LIHEAP funds so that low-income households do not have to choose between paying for heat and affording other necessities like food or medicine.

We look forward to continuing to work with you on this critical program, and thank you for your attention to our concerns and those of our constituents.

Sincerely,



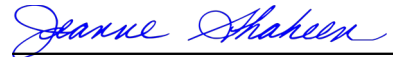
Jack Reed
United States Senator



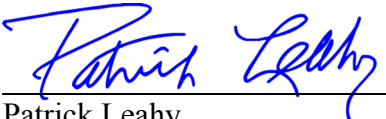
Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



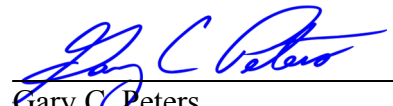
Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



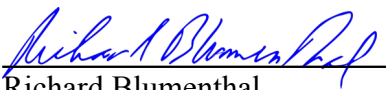
Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



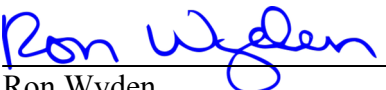
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



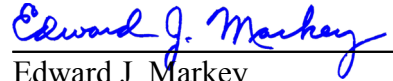
Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



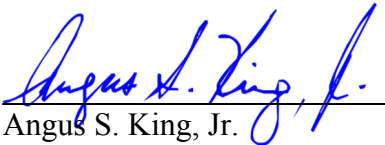
Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



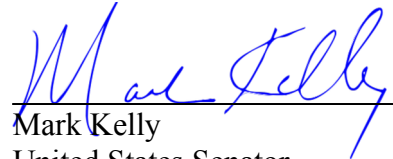
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
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Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
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Debbie Stabenow
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Mazie K. Hirono
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Tammy Baldwin
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Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



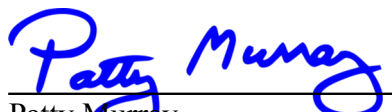
Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator





Joe Manchin III
United States Senator




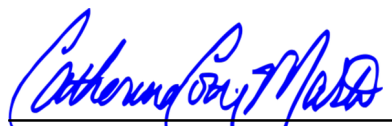
Benjamin L. Cardin
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