National Advocacy Session

NEUAC Annual Conference
June 27, 2018
Jessica Franks
What is advocacy?

- Educating Members of Congress and their staff
- Anyone and everyone can be advocate
Advocacy Schedule

- President’s budget is released
- Senate sends letter in response to budget
- Dear Colleague letter to Senate Appropriators
- Dear Colleague letter to House Appropriators
- LIHEAP Action Day
- Appropriations season begins
- House and Senate Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee draft legislation
- Full House and Senate vote on the legislation
Northern Democrats

Congresswoman Marcia Fudge (D-OH) ✓

Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) ✓

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (D-MI) ✓
Southern Democrats

Congressman Beto O’Rourke (D-TX) ✓

Congressman Henry Cuellar (D-TX) X

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX) ✓
Running for President: Bernie Edition

Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT)

As a candidate, Donald Trump said he understood the pain that working families were feeling.

Well, you're not responding to that pain, Mr. President, when you kick 500,000 families out of their homes by gutting affordable housing programs.

You don't help working families by throwing more than 100,000 kids off of Head Start.

You don't help working people when your budget would eliminate financial aid to hundreds of thousands of low-income college students.

You're not a “different” kind of Republican by proposing a budget that would eliminate heating assistance to 6 million families in this country by abolishing the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

10:18 AM - 13 Feb 2018

849 Retweets 3,271 Likes
Moderate Republicans

Congressman Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ) ✓

Congressman Will Hurd (R-TX) ✓

Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) X
Conservative Republicans

Congressman
Jim Jordan (R-OH) X

Congressman
Mark Meadows (R-NC) X

Congressman
Jody Hice (R-GA) X
Champions

- Senator Susan Collins (R-ME)
- Senator Jack Reed (D-VT)
- Congressman Peter Welch (D-VT)
- Congressman Peter King (R-NY)
“In these tough economic conditions we owe it to our families to make sure that they don’t have to choose between paying their rent and heating their homes.” – Senator Murray

Senator Patty Murray (D-WA)
Ranking Member
On March 15, 2018, DeLauro told HHS Secretary Azar at his congressional testimony that she had heard from constituents who depend on LIHEAP during LIHEAP Action Day.
The Most Important Member
Your Representative

Congressman Ruben Gallego (D-AZ) – Phoenix ✓

- Go to [https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative](https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative) and enter your zip code
What You Can Do

- Come to Washington, DC for LIHEAP Action Day!
- Sign onto the All Parties Letter and distribute Dear Colleague letters
- Share your stories with NEUAC!
LIHEAP Funding: FY1982-2016

First LIHEAP Action Day
Jan. 8, 2003
Materials & Messaging

The State Sheet.
- **Dollars:** how much the state got in the past.
- **Households:** # Eligible, # Served, and Ratio – % **NOT** served. Nationally, only 1 in 5 eligible get LIHEAP.
- % Eligible, % HH Served
- **Talking Points:** The Same for everyone.
  - Not an entitlement
  - Need is still high
  - Serves the most vulnerable
  - LIHEAP Makes The Difference
Where We Are Today

- House Labor-HHS bill text released June 15th keeps LIHEAP funding at $3.6 billion

- Senate Labor-HHS bill released yesterday increases LIHEAP funding to $3.7 billion

- Both await vote out of the full Appropriations Committee
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE
For making payments under subsections (b) and (d) of section 2602 of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, $3,640,304,000: Provided, That all but $678,500,000 of this amount shall be allocated as though the total appropriation for such payments for fiscal year 2018 was less than $1,975,000,000: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 2609A(a), of the amounts appropriated under section 2602(b), not more than $2,988,000 of such amounts may be reserved by the Secretary for technical assistance, training, and monitoring of program activities for compliance with internal controls, policies and procedures and may, in addition to the authorities provided in section 2609A(a)(1), use such funds through contracts with private entities that do not qualify as nonprofit organizations.
Questions?

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