PROTECT LIHEAP IN 2021

Hawaii By the Numbers

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Gross LIHEAP allocation to Hawaii in 2018</th>
<th>Hawaii LIHEAP funding down</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$5,004,477</td>
<td>16.91%</td>
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</table>

for utility payment assistance and home weatherization programs

16.91% from FY10 to FY18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of households eligible for LIHEAP in Hawaii</th>
<th># of low-income households that received LIHEAP in Hawaii in 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>81,819</td>
<td>8,864</td>
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Only 10.83% of the total eligible population in Hawaii received LIHEAP in 2018

74.15% of LIHEAP recipients in Hawaii have at least one vulnerable member:
- elderly over 60: 51.25%
- disabled: 12.55%
- child under 6: 19.36%

Federal home heating/cooling assistance saves Hawaii lives.
NEUAC urges Congress to protect LIHEAP funding for FY21.

www.neuac.org
**Why Protect LIHEAP Funding?**

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides critical home heating and cooling help to millions of vulnerable American families. LIHEAP funding peaked when Congress appropriated $5.1 billion for the program in FY09 and FY10. Since then, funding has fallen by more than one-third. Because of these cuts, one million fewer eligible households receive energy assistance, and average individual grants have been reduced.  

**LIHEAP is not an entitlement.**

Unlike entitlement programs, LIHEAP is funded by the annual congressional appropriations process. While states set eligibility rates, federal statute limits household income to a maximum of 150 percent of the federal poverty guideline, or 60 percent of the state median income. For example, 150 percent of the FY20 poverty guideline for a family of three is $31,995. Most LIHEAP recipients earn much less than the maximum thresholds: the latest data show that a typical LIHEAP recipient household had a median income of 83.5 percent of the federal poverty guideline.

**The need for LIHEAP remains high.**

In 2018, the national poverty rate was 11.5 percent, and 38.1 million Americans lived in poverty.

**LIHEAP prioritizes vulnerable households.**

More than 90 percent of LIHEAP recipient households have at least one vulnerable person - a senior aged 60 or older, a child aged 18 or under, or an individual with a disability.

**LIHEAP makes the difference.**

The Federal Reserve found that nearly half of American families would struggle to pay for an emergency expense costing $400. LIHEAP frequently meets those exact short-term emergencies and can be the difference between making ends meet or not.

**Protect LIHEAP.**

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**Sources**

1. FY10-19 Data, HHS; *FY2019 reflects preliminary data pending final data validation*
2. Eligible households, households served and vulnerable household statistics supplied from state reports and are preliminary for FY2019
3. NEADA Purchasing Power Table
7. https://neada.org/program-policy-reports/liheapsurvey/