

# #ProtectLIHEAP in 2024

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Chair  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Vice-Chair  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations and  
House Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education Subcommittee

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chair  
Senate Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education Subcommittee

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chair  
House Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education Subcommittee

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Senate Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education Subcommittee

July 13, 2023

Dear Appropriators:

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a critical, life-saving program that targets and serves the most vulnerable households, including older Americans, individuals with disabilities, and families with young children. Thank you for your ongoing support of energy assistance through supplemental funding and the regular appropriations process. As the committees and subcommittees consider priorities for Federal Fiscal Year 2024, we call on you once again to protect maximum funding for LIHEAP.

More than [5 million households](#) depend on LIHEAP each year to remain connected to power for air conditioning or fuel their homes. Residential cooling is increasingly important as temperatures reach dangerous highs across the country. Most recently, an [excessive heat warning](#) has been issued for 76 million Americans across 15 states, where the heat index has reached as high as 120 degrees. [Nine people died](#) during the current Texas heat dome in Webb County alone. All were between the ages of 60 and 80, indicative of the urgent need to protect the homebound and older Americans from the dangers of heat stress.

LIHEAP is a lifeline for those in economic distress struggling with basic needs. It protects access to power and fuel, prevents disconnection of service, and contributes to housing and family stability. [More than 70 percent](#) of LIHEAP recipient households include one or more vulnerable persons, including seniors, disabled persons, and families with young children.

Many states also use a portion of the LIHEAP funds to provide home weatherization measures; delivering lower energy bills and rendering homes safer and healthier. These services are invaluable when extreme heat threatens households with unsafe indoor air temperatures. Those same funds will protect families this winter when frigid temperatures arrive.

Surviving at the lowest levels of poverty, LIHEAP recipients make heartbreaking choices every day between food, medicine, or utilities. Congress is facing very difficult budget decisions. However, drastic cuts to LIHEAP are not the answer. Please consider these vulnerable populations as you approach the appropriations process, and protect funding for LIHEAP.

Thank you for your consideration.

Signed,

# neuac

NATIONAL ENERGY & UTILITY  
AFFORDABILITY COALITION

National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition (NEUAC)



Alliance to Save Energy



American Association of Blacks in Energy



American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy



American Gas Association



American Public Gas Association (APGA)



American Public Power Association



Edison Electric  
INSTITUTE

Edison Electric Institute (EEI)



Hispanics in Energy



National Association For State Community Services Programs

National Association for State Community Services Programs



National Community Action Partnership (NCAP)



National Consumer Law Center (NCLC), on behalf of its low-income clients

# NEADA

National Energy Assistance Director Association (NEADA)



National Energy & Fuels Institute



National Rural Electric Cooperative Association