

May 29, 2025

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair, Senate Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Subcommittee
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member, Senate Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education, and Related
Agencies Subcommittee
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair, House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member, House Committee on
Appropriations
Ranking Member, Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Subcommittee
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair, Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies
Subcommittee
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chair Collins, Chair Moore Capito, Chair Cole, Chair Aderholt, Vice Chair Murray, Ranking Member Baldwin, & Ranking Member DeLauro,

The April 1, 2025, lay-offs of 10,000 staff members of the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) included the [firings of the entire staff](#) of individuals who administer the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

LIHEAP is one of the most critical components of the social safety net that is provided by the federal government and distributed through the states. The program provides funding and distribution support, serving roughly [6.7 million low-income households](#) across the nation. The program has been supporting vulnerable households for over 40 years, ensuring millions of dollars of utility bill assistance is delivered to each and every state. In FY 2023, there were [261,000 occurrences](#) of households having their power restored thanks to LIHEAP.

The LIHEAP program ensures that households experiencing economic hardship are able to heat and cool their homes by avoiding utility shut offs, receiving assistance to pay their heating and cooling bills, and gaining access to critical repairs and replacements of heating, cooling, and water heating systems. The households served range from senior citizens on fixed incomes, to urban dwellers with poorly weatherized homes, to differently abled individuals who depend on continuous electric service to power essential health equipment, to rural families who rely on heating fuels to survive cold winters. Of the [households served by the program in FY23](#), 2.1 million included an individual with a disability, 996,000 included a young child, and 2.4 million included an older adult.

Congress appropriated [\\$4.1 billion to the program](#) in FY2025. Each state in the nation received between \$11 million and \$400 million of critical support for families. The current appropriation

will be exhausted in September of this year, and major disruptions would occur in a situation where there is no funding and no staff to administer the program.

In a time where many families are struggling with the rising costs of energy and fuel due to grid mismanagement, utility rate abuse, and extreme weather, social safety nets such as the LIHEAP program are more important than ever for low and moderate-income Americans.

We, the undersigned legislators, are calling for the reinstatement of the essential workers who staff the federal LIHEAP program and coordinate with state governments and the private sector to provide these critical resources to households. To disrupt the LIHEAP program would jeopardize the most vulnerable Americans and cause major disruptions to critical resources for our constituents. The reinstatement of LIHEAP's core staffing is imperative to ensuring the longevity of the program for years to come.

Signed,

Maryland Delegate Lorig Charkoudian
(MD-20)

Alaska Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson
(AK-G)

Alaska Senator Scott Kawasaki
(AK-P)

Alaska Senator Jesse Kiehl
(AK-Q)

Alaska Senator Löki Tobin
(AK-I)

Alaska Representative Sara Hannan
(AK-4)

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(AZ-11)

Arizona Senator Analise Ortiz
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Arizona Representative Betty Villegas
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(CO-14)

Colorado Senator Janice Marchman
(CO-15)

Colorado Senator Faith Winter
(CO-25)

Colorado Representative Junie Joseph
(CO-10)

Colorado Representative Naquetta Ricks
(CO-40)

Colorado Representative Brianna Titone
(CO-27)

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Connecticut Representative Mary Mushinsky
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Connecticut Representative John-Michael Parker
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Connecticut Representative Kevin Ryan
(CT-139)

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Delaware Representative Frank Burns
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Georgia Representative El-Mahdi Holly
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Georgia Representative Marvin Lim
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Georgia Representative Gabe Okoye
(GA-102)
Georgia Representative Sam Park
(GA-107)
Georgia Representative Kim Schofield
(GA-63)
Georgia Representative Rhonda Taylor
(GA-92)
Georgia Representative Mary Frances Williams
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Hawaii Senator Lorraine Inouye
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Hawaii Senator Chris Lee
(HI-25)
Hawaii Senator Sharon Moriwaki
(HI-12)
Hawaii Senator Joy San Buenaventura
(HI-2)
Hawaii Representative Della Au Belatti
(HI-26)
Hawaii Representative Tina Grandinetti
(HI-20)
Hawaii Representative Lisa Marten
(HI-51)
Hawaii Representative Amy Perruso
(HI-46)
Hawaii Representative Mahina Poepoe
(HI-13)
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(IA-40)
Iowa Representative Elizabeth Wilson
(IA-73)
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(IL-14)
Illinois Representative Maura Hirschauer
(IL-49)
Illinois Representative Theresa Mah
(IL-24)
Illinois Representative Michelle Mussman
(IL-56)
Indiana Representative Carolyn Jackson
(IN-1)
Indiana Representative Matt Pierce
(IN-61)
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Kentucky Representative Mary Marzian
(KY-41)

Kentucky Representative Sarah Stalker
(KY-34)
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(MA-12)
Massachusetts Senator Paul Mark
(MA-1)
Massachusetts Representative James Arena-DeRosa
(MA-66)
Massachusetts Representative Mindy Domb
(MA-58)
Massachusetts Representative Carmine Gentile
(MA-71)
Massachusetts Representative Natalie Higgins
(MA-145)
Massachusetts Representative David LeBoeuf
(MA-158)
Massachusetts Representative Steven Owens
(MA-87)
Massachusetts Representative Angelo Puppolo
(MA-55)
Massachusetts Representative Lindsay Sabadosa
(MA-56)
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Maryland Senator Benjamin Kramer
(MD-19)
Maryland Senator Karen Lewis Young
(MD-3)
Maryland Senator Alonzo Washington
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(MD-33)
Maryland Delegate Regina Boyce
(MD-43)
Maryland Delegate Anne Healey
(MD-22)
Maryland Delegate Julie Palakovich Carr
(MD-17)
Maryland Delegate Sheila Ruth
(MD-44)
Maryland Delegate Jen Terrasa
(MD-13)
Maryland Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins
(MD-20)
Maryland Delegate Sarah Wolek
(MD-16)
Maryland Delegate Natalie Ziegler
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(ME-34)
Maine Senator Denise Tepler
(ME-24)
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Maine Representative Poppy Arford
(ME-101)
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Maine Representative Cheryl Golek
(ME-99)
Maine Representative Lori Gramlich
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Maine Representative Allison Hepler
(ME-49)
Maine Representative Grayson Lookner
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Maine Representative Daniel Sayre
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Maine Representative Holly Stover
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Michigan Representative Donovan McKinney
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Minnesota Senator D. Scott Dibble
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Minnesota Representative Katie Jones
(MN-61)
Minnesota Representative Larry Kraft
(MN-46)

Minnesota Representative Andy Smith
(MN-25)
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Mississippi Senator Hillman Frazier
(MS-27)
Mississippi Representative Otis Anthony
(MS-31)
Mississippi Representative Oscar Denton
(MS-55)
Mississippi Representative Carl Mickens
(MS-42)
Montana Senator Ellie Boldman
(MT-47)
Montana Senator Mary Ann Dunwell
(MT-42)
Montana Senator Janet Ellis
(MT-41)
Montana Senator Andrea Olsen
(MT-48)
North Carolina Senator Sydney Batch
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North Carolina Senator Jay Chaudhuri
(NC-15)
North Carolina Senator Michael Garrett
(NC-27)
North Carolina Senator Julie Mayfield
(NC-49)
North Carolina Senator Mujtaba Mohammed
(NC-38)
North Carolina Senator Natalie Murdock
(NC-20)
North Carolina Senator Kandie Smith
(NC-5)
North Carolina Representative Deb Butler
(NC-18)
North Carolina Representative Sarah Crawford
(NC-66)
North Carolina Representative Pricey Harrison
(NC-61)
North Carolina Representative Renee Price
(NC-50)
North Dakota Senator Tim Mathern
(ND-11)
New Hampshire Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka
(NH-21)
New Hampshire Senator David Watters
(NH-4)
New Hampshire Representative Susan Almy
(NH-58)

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New Hampshire Representative Karen Ebel (NH-111)	New Mexico Representative Joanne Ferrary (NM-37)
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New Jersey Senator Troy Singleton (NJ-7)	Nevada Assembly Member Howard Watts (NV-15)
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New Jersey Assembly Member Clinton Calabrese (NJ-36)	New York Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal (NY-67)
New Jersey Assembly Member Margie Donlon (NJ-11)	New York Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon (NY-52)
New Jersey Assembly Member Shama Haider (NJ-37)	Ohio Representative Juanita Brent (OH-18)
New Jersey Assembly Member Garnet Hall (NJ-28)	Ohio Representative Tristan Rader (OH-13)
New Jersey Assembly Member James Kennedy (NJ-22)	Oklahoma Senator Mary Boren (OK-16)
New Jersey Assembly Member Luanne Peterpaul (NJ-11)	Oklahoma Representative Arturo Alonso Sandoval (OK-89)
New Jersey Assembly Member Lisa Swain (NJ-38)	Oregon Senator Jeff Golden (OR-3)
New Jersey Assembly Member Chris Tully (NJ-38)	Oregon Senator Courtney Neron Misslin (OR-13)
New Mexico Senator Heather Berghmans (NM-15)	Oregon Senator Khanh Pham (OR-23)
New Mexico Senator Natalie Figueroa (NM-18)	Oregon Representative Farrah Chaichi (OR-35)
New Mexico Senator Cindy Nava (NM-9)	Oregon Representative Bobby Levy (OR-58)
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New Mexico Senator Elizabeth Stefanics (NM-39)	Pennsylvania Senator Katie Muth (PA-44)
New Mexico Senator Jeff Steinborn (NM-36)	Pennsylvania Senator Lindsey Williams (PA-38)
New Mexico Senator Mimi Stewart (NM-17)	Pennsylvania Representative Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz (PA-129)

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(PA-148)
Pennsylvania Representative Elizabeth Fiedler
(PA-184)
Pennsylvania Representative Nancy Guent
(PA-152)
Pennsylvania Representative Ben Waxman
(PA-182)
Rhode Island Senator Alana DiMario
(RI-36)
Rhode Island Senator Dawn Euer
(RI-13)
Rhode Island Senator Victoria Gu
(RI-38)
Rhode Island Representative Jennifer Boylan
(RI-66)
Rhode Island Representative Lauren Carson
(RI-75)
Rhode Island Representative Terri Cortvriend
(RI-72)
Rhode Island Representative Arthur Handy
(RI-18)
Rhode Island Representative Rebecca Kislak
(RI-4)
Rhode Island Representative Joseph Solomon
(RI-22)
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(UT-13)
Utah Representative Gay Bennion
(UT-41)
Utah Representative Jennifer Dailey-Provost
(UT-22)
Utah Representative Angela Romero
(UT-25)
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(VA-13)
Virginia Senator Jennifer Boysko
(VA-38)
Virginia Senator Ghazala Hashmi
(VA-15)
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Virginia Delegate Rae Cousins
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Virginia Delegate Jackie Glass
(VA-93)
Virginia Delegate Phillip Hernandez
(VA-94)
Virginia Delegate Patrick Hope
(VA-1)

Virginia Delegate Sam Rasoul
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(VT-1)
Vermont Senator Virginia Lyons
(VT-15)
Vermont Senator Andrew Perchlik
(VT-11)
Vermont Senator Anne Watson
(VT-11)
Vermont Senator Becca White
(VT-13)
Vermont Representative Mollie Burke
(VT-97)
Vermont Representative R. Scott Campbell
(VT-16)
Vermont Representative Esme Cole
(VT-105)
Vermont Representative Kate Logan
(VT-33)
Vermont Representative James Masland
(VT-108)
Vermont Representative Monique Priestley
(VT-60)
Vermont Representative Barbara Rachelson
(VT-31)
Vermont Representative Laura Sibia
(VT-91)
Vermont Representative Dara Torre
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Washington Senator Derek Stanford
(WA-1)
Washington Representative Mia Gregerson
(WA-33)
Wisconsin Senator Dianne Hesselbein
(WI-27)
Wisconsin Senator Melissa Ratcliff
(WI-16)
Wisconsin Senator Mark Spreitzer
(WI-15)
Wisconsin Senator Robert Wirsch
(WI-22)
Wisconsin Representative Brienne Brown
(WI-43)
Wisconsin Representative Jodi Emerson
(WI-91)
Wisconsin Representative Vinnie Miresse
(WI-71)

Wisconsin Representative Supreme Moore
Omokunde
(WI-17)
Wisconsin Representative Greta Neubauer
(WI-66)

Wisconsin Representative Lisa Subeck
(WI-79)
West Virginia Delegate Evan Hansen
(WV-79)