



Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Background

LIHEAP helps low-income households and seniors with their energy bills, providing vital assistance during the cold winter months. LIHEAP households are among the most vulnerable in the country. According to the National Energy Assistance Director's Association (NEADA), nearly 90 percent of LIHEAP recipients have at least one household member who is a child, elderly or disabled. For these households, LIHEAP funding has been a lifeline during challenging economic times.

The Energy Marketers of America (EMA) member companies' market over 95 percent of the heating fuel sold in the United States. Heating fuel marketers have a unique relationship with their customers and communities that electric and natural gas utilities cannot provide. Heating fuel dealers are mostly small, second and third generation family-owned businesses who provide both fuel supply and service for heating fuel equipment for millions of customers nationwide. Thus, they are on the front lines every winter day to make sure their customers stay warm, by having reliable fuel and equipment services.

LIHEAP Funding Request

In addition to the \$3.75 billion in appropriations for FY 2021, the *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021* (H.R.1319) provided \$4.5 billion in additional LIHEAP funds through September 2022, for a total of \$8.25 billion.

EMA is a member of the National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition (NEUAC) that is urging Congress to maximize funding for FY 2022 LIHEAP.

"THE ASK" *Committees: House and Senate Appropriations Committees; All lawmakers*

- Urge all members to maximize LIHEAP funding for Fiscal Year 2022

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