

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 17, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Vice Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Chairwoman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Department of Labor,  
Health and Human Services,  
and Education, and Related Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Department of Labor,  
Health and Human Services,  
and Education, and Related Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairwoman Murray and Ranking Member Blunt:

Thank you for your work on the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Appropriations legislation. As negotiations on the ultimate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies bill proceed, we write to encourage your continued support for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

LIHEAP is America's primary residential energy assistance program and prioritizes at-risk households with the elderly, disabled and preschool-aged children. It is an essential tool for helping many of our most vulnerable citizens safely endure severe temperatures while making ends meet. We appreciate the House and Senate both recognizing the importance of this vital program by providing an increase in funding over the FY21 appropriated level. As you work towards a final agreement, we respectfully request that negotiators agree to the higher funding level of \$3.925 billion provided in the Senate committee released bill.

In addition to appropriating a higher level of funding, we also urge you to ensure that the final version of the bill predictably and equitably meets the heating and cooling needs of vulnerable families across the country. As such, we ask that negotiators agree to maintain the Senate version of hold harmless language, which continues the recommendation to "limit year-to-year fluctuations in allocations to States". This approach is consistent with FY 21 and reflects a more equitable and effective way to prevent significant year-to-year funding fluctuations.

Additionally, we share the concerns expressed by both the House and Senate Committees regarding the need for increased transparency in the program and welcome the inclusion of

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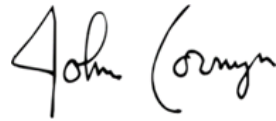
report language to ensure increased data availability and utilization regarding the LIHEAP Program's funding formula.

Thank you again for your support for the LIHEAP Program. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure the program meets the needs of low-income families across the country.

Sincerely,



Kyrsten Sinema  
U.S. Senator



John Cornyn  
U.S. Senator



Mark Kelly  
U.S. Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
U.S. Senator



Rafael Warnock  
U.S. Senator