

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

January 29, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

As you work to craft another recovery package to help Americans cope with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, we urgently request that you provide robust supplemental funding that reflects the increased need for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The LIHEAP program is well-positioned to quickly respond to, and support the needs of, millions of American households affected by the COVID-19 pandemic who are struggling to heat their homes this winter.

State energy officials have reported that they are ready to move additional LIHEAP funds quickly and have identified a need for an additional \$10 billion to serve 11 million families, including newly-eligible households. Across the nation, utilities are reporting significant increases in the number of families falling behind on their utility bills. The National Energy Assistance Directors' Association estimates that 15 to 20 percent of residential customers are at least 60 days behind on their electric and natural gas bills.

LIHEAP assistance is an indispensable lifeline, helping to ensure that recipients do not have to choose between paying their energy bills and affording other necessities like food and medicine. Yet the annual funding for LIHEAP is only able to provide benefits to approximately one in six eligible households. We appreciate the \$900 million included in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act for LIHEAP, but those funds are now fully obligated and additional funding is necessary to help the newly unemployed with their growing bills.

Thank you for your consideration of our request, and we look forward to working with you to support these important programs in this time of crisis.

Sincerely,



PETER WELCH  
Member of Congress



JAMES P. MCGOVERN  
Member of Congress

## **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, COVID-19 Supplemental Funding**

### **List of Signatories**

**January 29, 2021**

Nanette Diaz Barragán  
John B. Larson  
Paul D. Tonko  
Madeleine Dean  
Adriano Espaillat  
Debbie Dingell  
Peter A. DeFazio  
Adam Smith  
Thomas R. Suozzi  
Dwight Evans  
Joseph D. Morelle  
Lori Trahan  
Tony Cárdenas  
Al Lawson  
Ann McLane Kuster  
Ann Kirkpatrick  
Jerrold Nadler  
Gwen S. Moore  
Andy Levin  
Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Joe Courtney  
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Suzanne Bonamici  
Vicente Gonzalez  
Haley Stevens  
G. K. Butterfield  
Earl Blumenauer  
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Jesús G. "Chuy" García

Jake Auchincloss  
Chris Pappas  
Richard E. Neal  
Daniel T. Kildee  
John P. Sarbanes  
Teresa Leger Fernández  
Chellie Pingree  
Seth Moulton  
David Trone  
Ed Case  
Mondaire Jones  
Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Sylvia R. Garcia  
Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Cindy Axne  
Ron Kind  
Brenda L. Lawrence  
Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Bobby L. Rush  
Mike Doyle  
William R. Keating  
Sharice L. Davids  
Doris Matsui  
Marcy Kaptur  
Shelia Jackson Lee  
Rick Larsen  
Brendan F. Boyle  
Kathleen M. Rice

