Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

October 14, 2026

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs Collins and Cole, Vice Chair Murray, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We urge the House Appropriations Committee to provide an additional $3 billion in emergency supplemental appropriations for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27). As the war with Iran remains unresolved, energy prices are expected to keep rising, with heating oil up 60% since February. LIHEAP's $4 billion in funding for the last fiscal year would fall significantly short in meeting the needs of American families this fiscal year.

Households across the nation are facing skyrocketing energy costs, with estimates finding that households will pay an average of $6,500 more for energy, cumulatively through 2040.[1] If LIHEAP is to fulfill its mission of meeting the immediate home heating and cooling needs of disadvantaged households, the program must receive additional dedicated funding this fiscal year.

About one in six U.S. households are behind on utility bills, and in 2025, it is estimated that nearly four million households faced utility disconnections for a total of 13.4 million shut offs, an increase of 500,000 families over 2024.[2] The pain of increased costs is especially acute for low- and moderate-income homes who spend on average up to 10 percent of their income on energy.[3]

LIHEAP is a critical lifeline for low- and moderate-income individuals, but even if your household qualifies, LIHEAP does not provide guaranteed security. Five out of six families who qualify for LIHEAP receive no financial assistance due to the program's woefully underfunded

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[1] https://energyinnovation.org/report/economic-consumer-cost-pollution-impacts-of-federal-energy-policy-changes-in-48-u-s-states/

[2] https://neada.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/winterupdatejan26.pdf

[3] https://www.americanprogress.org/article/a-plan-for-american-electricity-affordability/

status.[4] When adjusting for inflation, LIHEAP funding is lower now than it was in 1981 when the program was first created. If LIHEAP was funded at the same level as it was 45 years ago, the program would have received nearly $7 billion in FY27.

Emergency LIHEAP assistance is urgently needed as winter weather approaches and colder temperatures have already begun. Families should not have to choose between staying warm and purchasing other essential items like food, medication, or rent. Congress must act and not leave families in the cold.

Sincerely,

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

Josh Riley
Member of Congress

James C. Moylan
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress

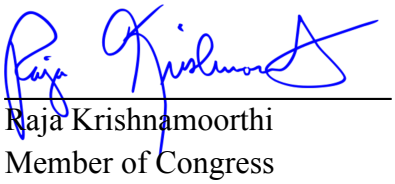
[4] https://www.aga.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/LIHEAP-One-Pager-2026.pdf



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



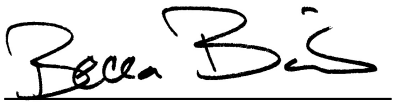
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



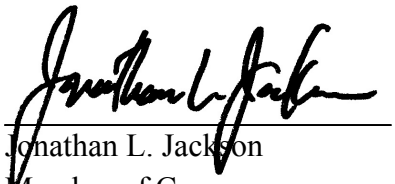
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



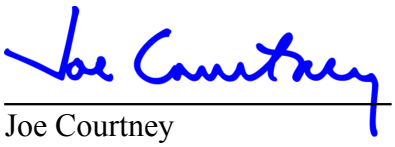
Becca Balint
Member of Congress



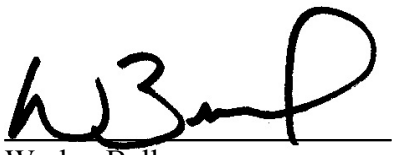
Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



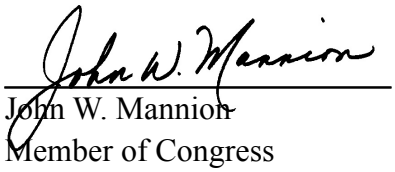
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



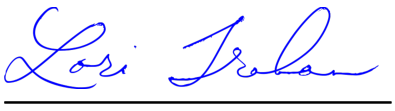
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



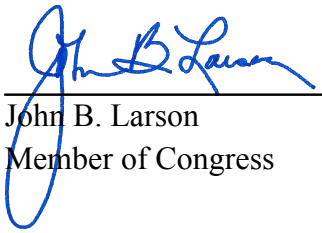
Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



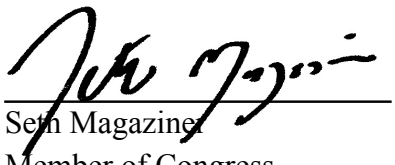
John W. Mannion
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



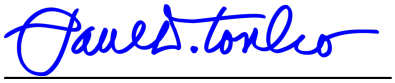
John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



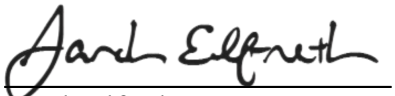
Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress



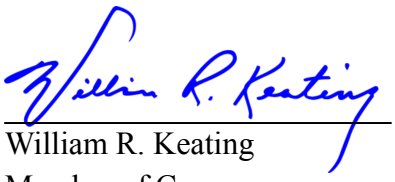
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



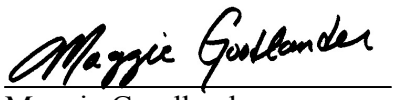
Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



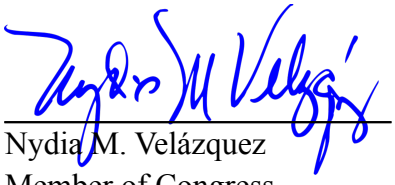
Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



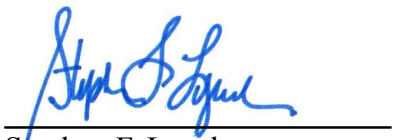
Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



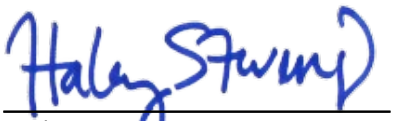
Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



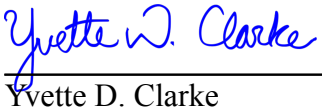
Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



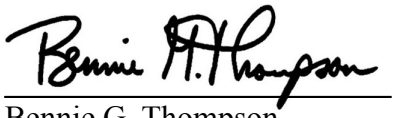
Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



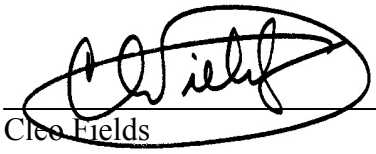
Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



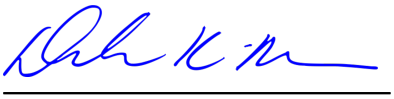
Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields
Member of Congress



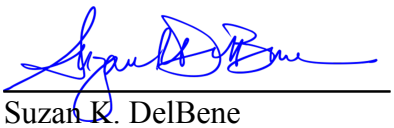
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



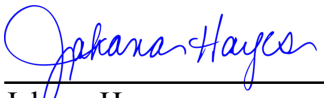
Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



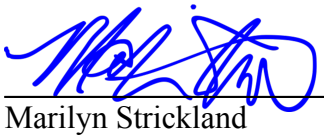
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



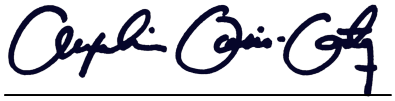
Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
Member of Congress



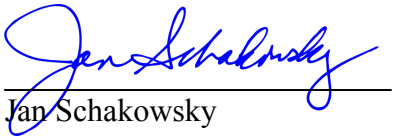
Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



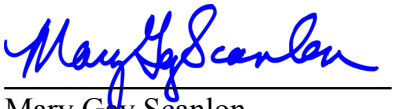
Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



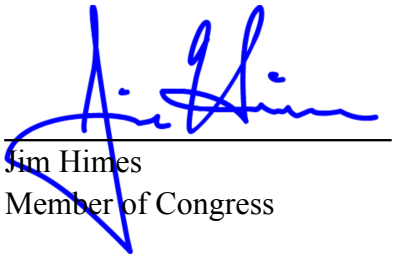
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



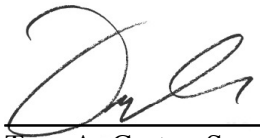
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



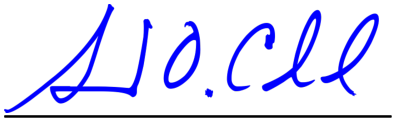
Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



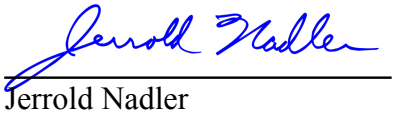
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



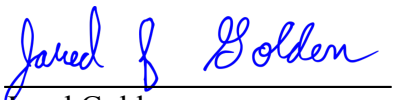
Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



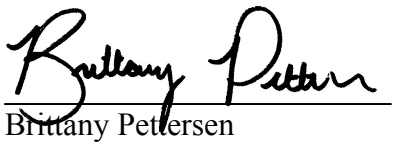
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



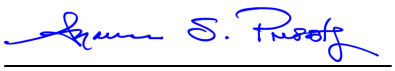
Jared Golden
Member of Congress



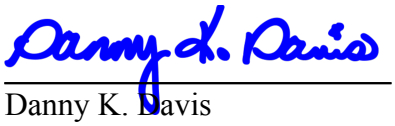
Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
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James P. McGovern
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Sylvia R. Garcia
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Frederica S. Wilson
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Judy Chu
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Summer L. Lee
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John Garamendi
Member of Congress