

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Xavier Becerra Secretary U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 330 C Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Secretary Becerra:

We write to urge the Department of Health and Human Services to release the remaining Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds as quickly as possible. This will ensure state LIHEAP offices can continue to help vulnerable households keep the heat on this winter and plan for the rest of the program year.

As the main federal program that helps low-income households and seniors with their energy bills, LIHEAP provides critical assistance during the cold winter and hot summer months. Over the past year, as energy prices spiked worldwide, LIHEAP has become even more important in helping families pay their energy bills without foregoing other household essentials, like food or medicine. To that end, we worked to secure an additional \$2 billion in emergency program funding between the Continuing Resolution and the Omnibus – bringing the total LIHEAP funds for FY23 to more than \$6 billion.

We are grateful for the quick release of more than \$4.5 billion last November, which has already helped millions of families nationwide. Now, it is critical that the remaining funding is distributed as quickly as possible so it can continue reaching households in need.

We look forward to working with you on this critical program, and thank you for your attention to our concerns and those of our constituents.

Sincerely,

And a

Jack Reed United States Senator

Lusan M Collins

Susan M. Collins United States Senator

earne Shaheen

Jeanne Shaheen United States Senator

Edward J. Markey

Edward J. Markey United States Senator

Tammy Baldwin United States Senator

Angus S. King, Jr. () United States Senator

Tammy Vickwa

Tammy Duckworth United States Senator

ichar 1 Blumin

Richard Blumenthal United States Senator

- lale

Gary C. Peters United States Senator

Mazgie Hassan Margaret Wood Hassan

Margaret Wood Hassan United States Senator

Robert P. Casey, Jr. United States Senator

Kyrsten Sinema United States Senator

Sheldon Whitehouse United States Senator

Christopher A. Coons United States Senator

Alex Padilla United States Senator

Cory A. Booker United States Senator

n

Tina Smith United States Senator

Christopher S. Murphy United States Senator

Chris Van Hollen United States Senator

Richard J. Durbin United States Senator

Dilliprond Kin

Kirsten Gillibrand United States Senator

Maria Cantwell United States Senator

C Warner

Mark R. Warner United States Senator

John Fetterman United States Senator

ligabet

Elizabeth Warren United States Senator

erou

Debbie Stabenow United States Senator

and Samders

Bernard Sanders United States Senator

till

Peter Welch United States Senator

Robert Menendez

United States Senator

Mark Kelly United States Senator

Thomas R. Carper United States Senator

Dianne Feinstein United States Senator