



NARUC

National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners



April 8, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

On April 1, 2025, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced terminations that included the entire staff of the department that administers the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP is a critical, life-saving program that targets and helps the most vulnerable households pay their utility bills. LIHEAP recipients include seniors, individuals with disabilities, and families with young children. The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA) recognize how critical LIHEAP support is to the utility consumers we represent and have consistently advocated for sufficient funding and resources to meet the needs of our most vulnerable customers.

LIHEAP provides essential winter heating and summer cooling assistance, emergency funding, and weatherization assistance to millions of Americans. In fiscal year 2023, \$6.2B total funding was released to support immediate home energy needs and ensure continuity of services. This funding directly helped 5.9 million households and restored energy to homes 261,000 times. A snapshot of the households and types of assistance received during this period follows:

No. of Households	Demographic or Assistance Type
5 Million	Heating Assistance
2.4 Million	Older Adults
2.1 Million	Individuals with a Disability
1.4 Million	Crisis Assistance
996,000	Young Children
927,000	Cooling Assistance
61,000	Weatherization Assistance

NARUC and NASUCA urge you to review and reinstate sufficient staffing to administer the annual LIHEAP appropriation. We are extremely concerned these terminations will result in vulnerable families and individuals falling further behind on their utility bills. Access to this critical funding can be a matter of health and safety for many households. Your staff can discuss this program in more detail by reaching out to NARUC Senior Director of Energy Policy and Legal Counsel, Kim Duffley, at kduffley@naruc.org or 202.898.1350, and David Springe, NASUCA Executive Director at David.springe@nasuca.org or 785-550-7606.

Respectfully submitted,

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