

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 12, 2026

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

Dear Secretary Kennedy:

We urge you to immediately release the remaining roughly \$400 million of FY26 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding available under PL 119-75.

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. According to the National Energy Assistance Directors' Association, households are expected to spend 11% more on winter heating costs this winter compared to last year. With low-income families and seniors feeling additional strains on their household budgets, a timely release of LIHEAP funding is even more critical to ensure families do not need to choose between paying their energy bills and other essentials, like food or medicine.

Any delay in the release of appropriated funds would set back states' efforts to cover outstanding bills relating to unexpected delivered fuels emergencies, to weatherize low-income homes, and to plan for summer cooling programs. Our states are ready to deploy these funds to help vulnerable households as soon as they receive them from HHS.

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

Sincerely,



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Charles E. Grassley  
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator



Elissa Slotkin  
United States Senator



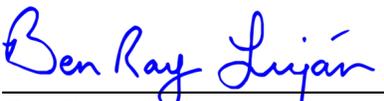
Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



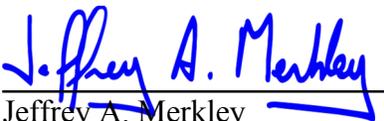
Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senator



Lisa Blunt Rochester  
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Ruben Gallego  
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



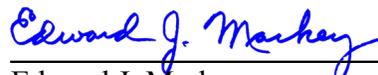
Raphael Warnock  
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



Angela D. Alsobrooks  
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



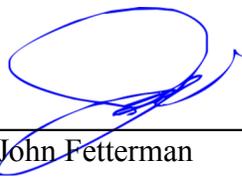
Adam B. Schiff  
United States Senator



Peter Welch  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



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John Fetterman  
United States Senator



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Tina Smith  
United States Senator



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Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



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Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



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Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



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Mark Kelly  
United States Senator



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Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



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Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



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Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator