

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell:

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 and cool their homes next summer.

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.

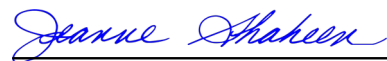
LIHEAP assistance is an indispensable lifeline, helping to ensure that recipients do not have to choose between paying their energy bills and affording other necessities like food and medicine. Yet the annual funding for LIHEAP is only able to provide benefits to approximately one in six eligible households. 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.

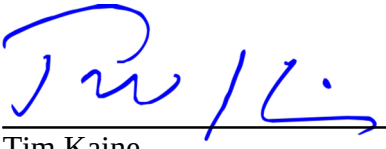
Sincerely,



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

/s/ Cory A. Booker

Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



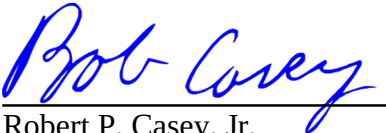
Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator

/s/ Tammy Baldwin

Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator

/s/ Debbie Stabenow

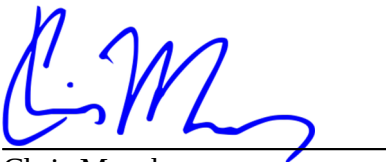
Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



Chris Murphy  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator

/s/ Michael F. Bennet

Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



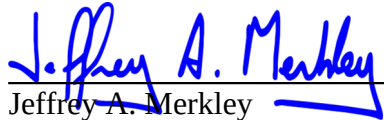
Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator

/s/ Jon Ossoff

Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator

/s/ Richard Blumenthal

Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator

/s/ Mark Kelly

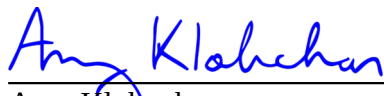
Mark Kelly  
United States Senator

/s/ Raphael Warnock

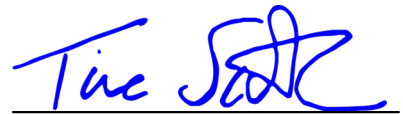
Raphael Warnock  
United States Senator

/s/ Robert Menendez

Robert Menendez  
United States Senator



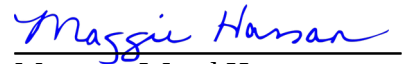
Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



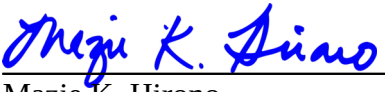
Tina Smith  
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator

/s/ Brian Schatz

Brian Schatz  
United States Senator

/s/ Edward J. Markey

Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator

/s/ Dianne Feinstein

Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

/s/ Elizabeth Warren

Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator

/s/ Alex Padilla

Alex Padilla  
United States Senator

/s/ Gary C. Peters

Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator

/s/ Bernard Sanders

Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator

/s/ Ron Wyden

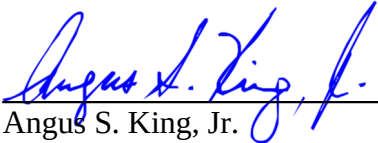
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Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



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Ben Ray Luján  
United States Senator




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Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator

/s/ Maria Cantwell

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Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator



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Tom Carper  
United States Senator

/s/ Joe Manchin

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Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator