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SELECT INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT PANEL

www.house.gov/young

January 22, 2008

Louis Gonzalez
Florida Energy Affordability Coalition
9250 West Flagler Street, Suite 6637
Miami, Florida 33174

Dear Louis:

Because of your strong support for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding in fiscal year 2008, I thought you might be interested to learn of recent events in this regard.


You will be pleased to know on December 19th, with my strong support, the Congress gave final approval to the Fiscal Year 2008 Consolidated Omnibus Appropriations Act. This important catch-all spending measure, which has since been signed into law by the President, contains \$2.57 billion for LIHEAP. Of this amount, \$1.98 billion is for regular funds, the same amount appropriated in FY 2007; \$590 million is allocated for contingency funds to deal with fluctuating heating oil prices and severe weather conditions. The regular fund appropriation exceeds the President's FY 2008 budget request by \$480 million and his contingency fund request by \$308 million.

The Department of Health and Human Services has just announced the release of these funds to the states, including \$2,038,508 to the State of Florida. Enclosed, for your information, is a copy of the Department's announcement.

This is a clear example of our efforts in Congress to provide low-income households real relief from a possible heating emergency this winter. As my colleagues and I begin our work on fiscal year 2009 appropriations, you can be sure that I will remain steadfast in my support for LIHEAP funding and will continue to follow up with you on any new developments that occur.

As always, I greatly appreciate knowing of your support for my efforts on this important matter of mutual concern. With best wishes and personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,


C. W. Bill Young
Member of Congress

CWY:js
Enclosures



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

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HHS News

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

www.hhs.gov/news

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
 Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2008

Contact: ACF Press Office
 (202) 401-9215

HHS Provides \$450 Million In Energy Assistance To Low-Income Families

HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt today announced the release of \$450 million to help eligible low-income homeowners and renters meet home energy costs. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds will provide states, territories, tribal areas and the District of Columbia with heating assistance for the winter months ahead.

"Shelter is a basic human need," Secretary Leavitt said. "These funds will enable states to make sure no one is left out in the cold."

LIHEAP helps eligible families pay for home cooling, heating and insulation in summer and winter months. Every year, more than five million low-income households across the country receive assistance under LIHEAP.

"The Bush Administration is committed to protecting the vulnerable," Daniel Schneider, acting assistant secretary for the Administration for Children and Families said. "This new release of funds will further ensure our low-income neighbors are able to keep warm no matter how cold winter becomes."

Including block grant allocations, the money released today through the LIHEAP contingency fund brings the total delivered to approximately \$2.22 billion this fiscal year. \$160 million remains available for unanticipated events in the emergency contingency fund.

For a complete list of state allocations of the funds released today go to:
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/news/press/2008/liheap_allocations_2008.html

Individuals interested in applying for energy assistance should contact their local/state LIHEAP agency. For more information, go to
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/liheap/> or
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/liheap/brochure.html>.

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Note: All HHS press releases, fact sheets and other press materials are available at
<http://www.hhs.gov/news>.

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**Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) State Allotments
of \$450 Million in Emergency Contingency Funds Reflecting
Low Income Households using Fuel Oil, Propane Gas & Natural Gas for Heat**

Total allocation available to the States & Tribes	
State	Gross Allotments
Alabama	\$1,288,320
Alaska	\$3,557,138
Arizona	\$623,047
Arkansas	\$983,049
California	\$6,911,464
Colorado	\$8,059,412
Connecticut	\$13,598,024
Delaware	\$826,638
District of Columbia	\$488,219
Florida	\$2,038,508
Georgia	\$1,611,753
Hawaii	\$162,313
Idaho	\$939,987
Illinois	\$29,100,350
Indiana	\$13,175,820
Iowa	\$9,337,881
Kansas	\$4,288,374
Kentucky	\$2,050,180
Louisiana	\$1,317,110
Maine	\$8,809,352
Maryland	\$2,407,080
Massachusetts	\$27,200,551
Michigan	\$27,628,231
Minnesota	\$19,904,577
Mississippi	\$1,104,535
Missouri	\$11,623,816
Montana	\$3,687,369
Nebraska	\$4,617,940
Nevada	\$292,627
New Hampshire	\$5,148,509
New Jersey	\$25,251,481
New Mexico	\$780,012
New York	\$82,449,906
North Carolina	\$2,840,718
North Dakota	\$4,005,599
Ohio	\$25,743,608
Oklahoma	\$1,184,231
Oregon	\$1,867,706
Pennsylvania	\$44,287,763
Rhode Island	\$4,477,366
South Carolina	\$1,023,189

South Dakota	\$3,253,247
Tennessee	\$2,076,788
Texas	\$3,391,396
Utah	\$3,745,228
Vermont	\$3,858,991
Virginia	\$2,932,092
Washington	\$3,072,119
West Virginia	\$1,356,760
Wisconsin	\$17,916,977
Wyoming	\$1,499,507
Amount to Territories	\$203,142
Total	\$450,000,000
Tribal Set-Aside (included in total)	\$4,429,331

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Last Updated: January 16, 2008