

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 26

Stating the sense of the Senate regarding funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 2001

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations

RESOLUTION

Stating the sense of the Senate regarding funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Whereas home energy assistance for working, low-income, and middle-income families with children, the elderly on fixed incomes, individuals with disabilities, and others who need such assistance is a critical part of the social safety net in cold weather areas during the winter, and a source of necessary cooling assistance during the summer;

Whereas the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (referred to in this resolution as “LIHEAP”) provides a highly targeted, cost-effective way to help millions of low-income residents of the United States pay their home energy bills;

Whereas more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the households that are eligible for assistance through LIHEAP have annual incomes of less than \$8,000, and approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ of those households have annual incomes of less than \$6,000;

Whereas regular and emergency funding for LIHEAP for fiscal year 2001 has been exhausted in some States and nearly exhausted in several other States;

Whereas as a result, more than 30,000,000 households around the Nation may be left without energy assistance in areas that may face several more weeks of cold winter weather; and

Whereas without additional funding, members of those households may be forced to make an unacceptable choice between heating their homes or purchasing food, medicine, or other basic necessities: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the
 2 President and Congress should immediately prepare and
 3 enact a supplemental appropriations bill to provide
 4 \$1,000,000,000 in regular funding for LIHEAP,
 5 \$152,000,000 for weatherization assistance grants under
 6 part A of title IV of the Energy Conservation and Produc-
 7 tion Act (42 U.S.C. 6861 et seq.), and \$37,000,000 for
 8 State energy conservation plan grants under part D of
 9 title III of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42
 10 U.S.C. 6321 et seq.).

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