

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr Secretary U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201

September 29, 2025

## Dear Secretary Kennedy:

The National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), representing sixty-two utility consumer advocate offices across forty-five states and territories, joins the National Energy Assistance Directors Association (NEADA) in urging you to continue the longstanding practice of releasing program funds for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for FY 2026 at 90 percent of the FY 2025 program level in the event that Congress passes a short-term funding bill at the end of September.

As NEADA stated in its letter, both the House and Senate Appropriations committees have signaled continued funding for LIHEAP above FY 2025 levels. The funding proposed by both House and Senate are a clear sign from Congress that it intends to continue to provide states with LIHEAP funds.

The October release of 90 percent of the funds is vital to ensuring state and local agencies can assist families by reducing energy costs and arrearages and keep their heat on through winter. Additionally, these funds are most effective when they are deployed early in the heating season to prevent families from falling behind in their bills.

NASUCA supports NEADA's request to release 90 percent of program funds no later than October 20, 2025, and appreciates your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

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