

## **NATIONAL FUEL FUNDS NETWORK RESOLUTION**

### **Support for funding of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).**

WHEREAS, poverty, unemployment and the slow economic recovery remain persistent national problems and energy costs remain a burden on low-income households; and,

WHEREAS, low-income families pay about 17 percent of their income for energy, which is over four times the percent spent by the typical middle-income American family; and,

WHEREAS, only 17 percent of the households eligible for LIHEAP receive energy assistance grants; and

WHEREAS, LIHEAP provides for the vital energy needs of low-income families and senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, Congress recognized the dire state of the economy and approved \$5.1 billion for LIHEAP for FY 2010 resulting in record numbers of households receiving assistance; and

WHEREAS, a funding level of \$5.1 billion represents the minimum amount through which the program can be effective; and

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the National Fuel Funds Network that, as a matter of humane, fair, and sound public policy, we urge Congress to provide annual funding for LIHEAP at a level of \$7.6 billion for fiscal year 2011, and an advance appropriation for fiscal year 2012 in the amount of \$7.6 billion. A request for this funding level will allow this important program to effectively ease the energy burden of those who are most in need.

Adopted by members of the National Fuel Funds Network at the NFFN Annual Membership Meeting during the National Utility and Energy Affordability Conference, June 15, 2010, San Antonio, Texas.

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Tom Stovall, Chairman