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## RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, poverty and marginal employment 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, the number of households receiving LIHEAP continues to increase with last year's totals reaching the highest level in 14 years; and

WHEREAS, only 15 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

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 \$5.1 billion for fiscal year 2008, and an advance appropriation for fiscal year 2009 in the amount of \$5.1 billion. A request for this funding level is fair and reasonable. Any lower level puts an excessive economic burden on those who can least afford it.

Adopted at the National Fuel Funds Network Annual Conference, June 4, 2007, Nashville, TN.

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Greg Sawyers, Chairperson