



National Fuel Funds Network

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LIHEAP UPDATE

To: NFFN Members

September 27, 2007

The Department of Health and Human Services Wednesday afternoon announced the release \$131 million in LIHEAP emergency funds. Of the \$131 million, \$106 million will go to all 50 states and the remaining \$25 million will go to states in the Northeast and Alaska, where home heating oil is the predominant source for residential energy.

The \$25 million will be allotted to Alaska, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. For a complete list of state allocations of the funds released today go to: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/news/press/2007/liheap_fund_092007.html

Thanks to NFFN members for your work to get the funds released. You and other LIHEAP supporters, for the last two months, have been urging the White House to release the emergency funds before they expired at the end of September. In August, the White House released \$50 million in emergency funds, but those funds were targeted to 12 states that had experienced severe heat waves.

In another development Wednesday, the House of Representatives approved a continuing resolution to provide limited funding to keep the government operating while the Congress completes work on the government appropriations bills. The Senate is expected to pass the continuing resolution before the end of the week so that it can go to the President for signature before the fiscal year ends on September 30.

The continuing resolution, which expires on November 16, maintains funding for LIHEAP at \$2.16 billion, the same level as FY 2007 funding for the program.

The House has passed the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education FY 2008 appropriations bill containing \$2.662 billion in LIHEAP funding. In the Senate, the appropriations committee has approved their version of the Labor, HHS, Education appropriations bill which keeps LIHEAP funding at the FY 2007 level of \$2.161 billion. The full Senate has yet to consider the bill.