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***ACTION ALERT***  
***President's Budget Request Cuts LIHEAP by 25%***

To: NFFN members and allies

February 5, 2007

The President proposed an FY 2008 budget today that would cut LIHEAP funding by about 25% from the level in the present Continuing Resolution for FY 2007. On February 1 Over 140 delegates to NFFN's Washington Action Day for LIHEAP advocated that Congress continue funding from FY 2006 -- \$3.2 billion -- for LIHEAP for FY 2007. Anticipating today's Budget Request, but not knowing the proposed level, the advocates also urged that Congress appropriate \$5.1 billion – or level funding of at least \$3.2 billion – for FY 2008.

Courtesy of Mark Wolfe of NEADA, here is the latest information we have:

The President's Budget for FY 08 will cut LIHEAP to \$1.782 billion (\$1.5 billion in regular grant funds and \$278 million in contingency), down from an expected \$2.186 billion (\$1.98 billion in regular grant funds and \$1.81 million in contingency funds) for FY 07. There does not appear to be any text [in the budget request to Congress] justifying the decrease.

Note: According to NASCSP, the Administration has also proposed a reduction in the Weatherization program from \$242.5 million to \$144 million.

Attached is a [NEADA table](#) showing the impacts of the proposed cut on a state-by-state basis.

In LIHEAP's 26 years, the lowest appropriation for core funding was \$900 million in FY1996. The FY 2001 appropriation was \$1.4 billion core funding, and it has risen steadily since then.

We should not give up on securing additional LIHEAP funding in the FY 2007 Continuing Resolution in the Senate and with emergency supplemental funding legislation expected in March ([See NFFN's ACTION ALERT \(2/1/07\)](#)). However, now is the time to communicate to your legislators the need to increase LIHEAP funding to at least \$3.2 billion for FY 2008. This action is especially important if your Senators and/or Representatives are members of the Appropriations Committees and Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittees. A list is attached.