

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 5, 2019

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:


We write in support of two successful federal programs, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), which are currently helping to meet the energy needs of eligible low-income households across the country. Extreme weather across the United States, including record-breaking cold temperatures in several states recently brought by the polar vortex, have once again highlighted the importance of affordable access to home energy as a matter of health and safety for more than six million low-income households, many of which include children, veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. LIHEAP and WAP have long enjoyed bipartisan support, and we hope that you will prioritize funding for both programs in your fiscal year 2020 budget proposal.

LIHEAP helps these low-income households with their energy bills, providing an indispensable lifeline during both the cold winter and hot summer months. More than 71 percent of LIHEAP recipients have at least one household member who is a child under the age of six, a senior, or an individual with a disability. This program helps to ensure that eligible recipients do not have to choose between paying their energy bills and affording other necessities like food and medicine. This is especially important during the peak winter heating and summer cooling seasons, when energy bills can comprise more than 30 percent of a low-income household's monthly income. Unfortunately, the number of households eligible for LIHEAP assistance continues to exceed the program's capacity.

WAP is another critical program, which for more than 40 years has helped to reduce the burden of high home energy prices for over 7.4 million low-income households. By supporting lasting and cost-effective home energy efficiency improvements for low-income families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities, WAP is increasing the energy efficiency of people's homes, reducing residential energy bills, improving the health and safety of our most vulnerable citizens, and helping to lower the need for short-term assistance. WAP has been repeatedly demonstrated as cost-effective with every \$1 invested in weatherization returning over \$4 in benefits. WAP has also supported thousands of high quality, skilled jobs as well as local small businesses. A study by Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that weatherization saves eligible single-family homes on average \$283 in annual energy cost savings, which benefits not only the household but also boosts the local economy. And in cold weather states, weatherization has reduced heating bills by 30 percent on average.

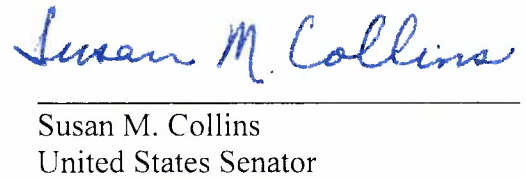
Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this important request. We recognize the ongoing challenges facing the discretionary budget and look forward to working with you to support these vital programs and ensuring access to affordable home energy for the most vulnerable households in every state.

Sincerely,



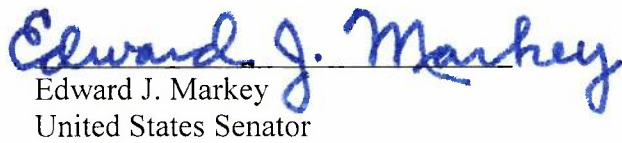
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Jack Reed  
United States Senator



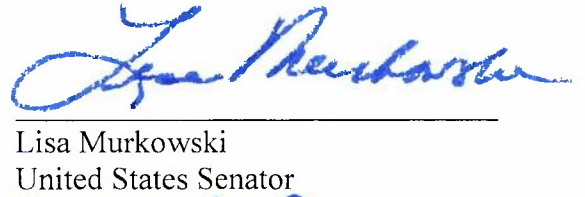
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Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator



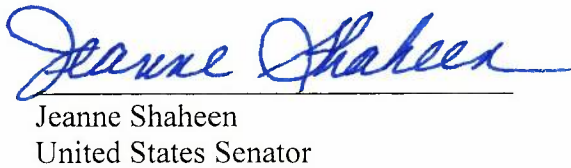
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Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



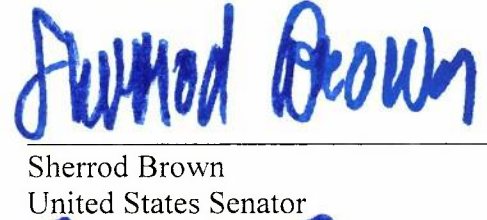
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Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator




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Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



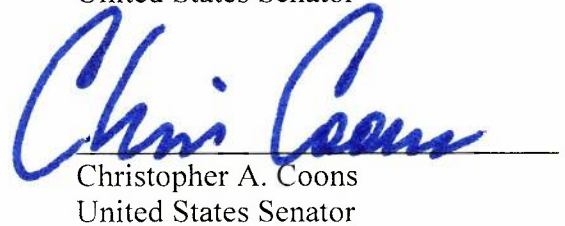
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Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



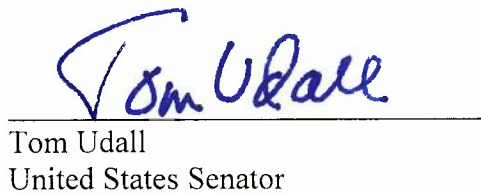
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Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



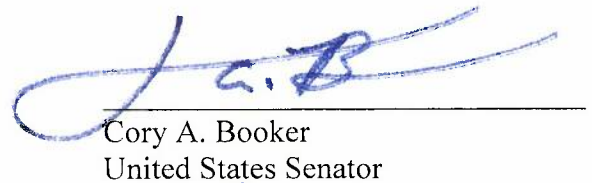
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Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



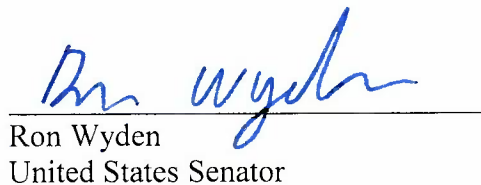
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Tom Udall  
United States Senator



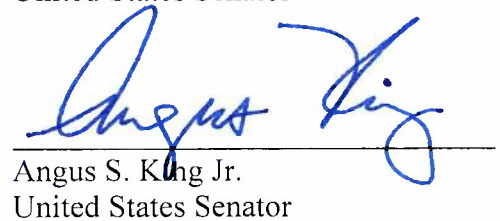
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Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



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Ron Wyden  
United States Senator




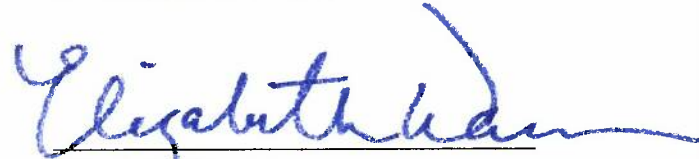
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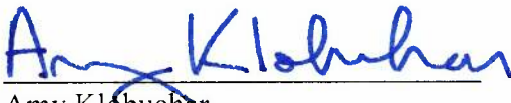
Angus S. King Jr.  
United States Senator

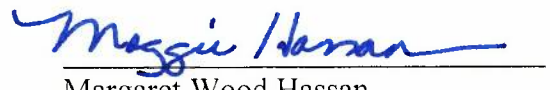
  
Robert Menendez  
United States Senator

  
Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator

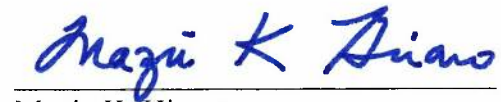
  
Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator


  
Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator

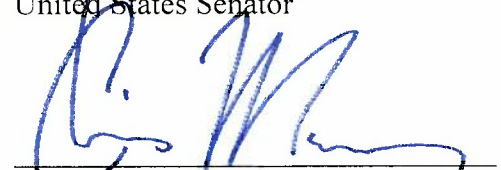
  
Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator

  
Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator

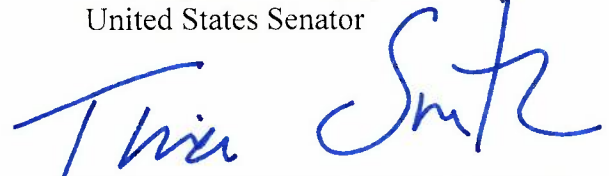
  
Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator

  
Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator

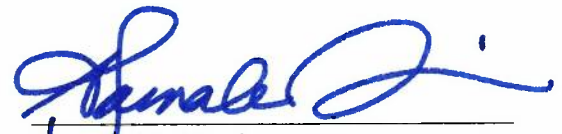
  
Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator

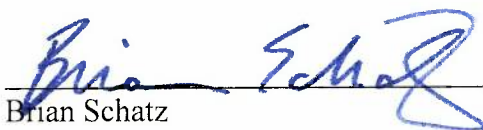
  
Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator

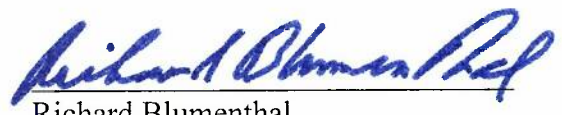
  
Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator

  
Tina Smith  
United States Senator


  
Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senator

  
Kamala D. Harris  
United States Senator

  
Brian Schatz  
United States Senator

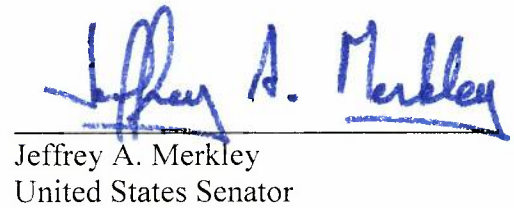
  
Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator





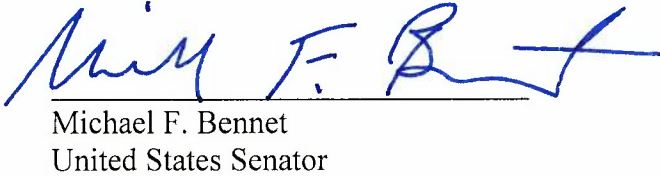
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Joe Manchin II  
United States Senator



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Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



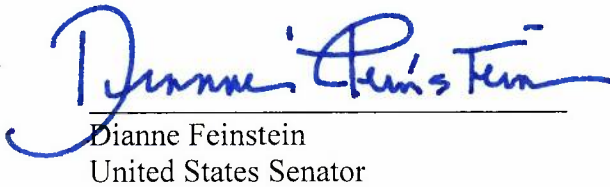
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Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



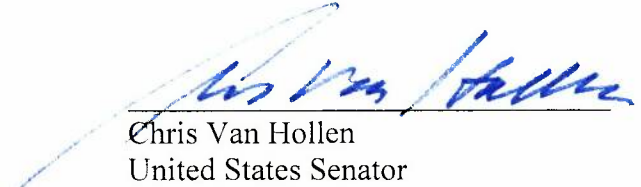
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Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



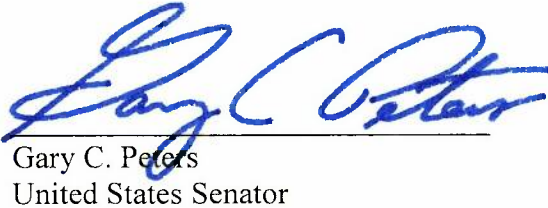
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Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



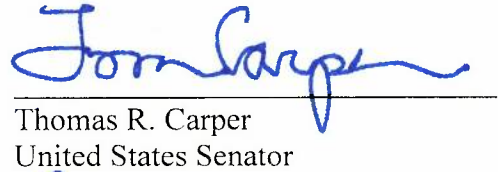
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Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



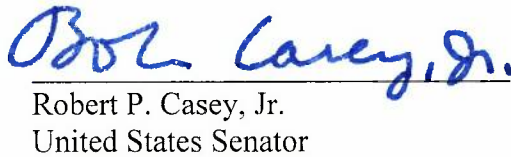
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Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



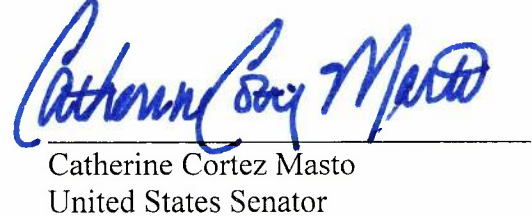
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Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator



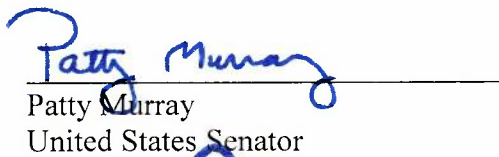
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Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



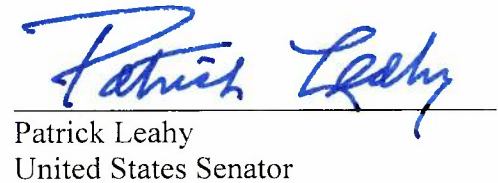
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Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



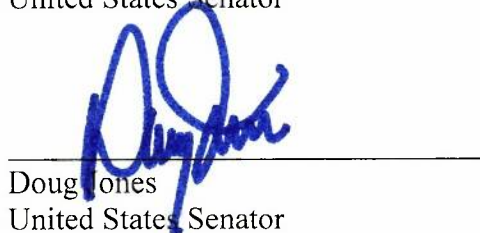
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Patty Murray  
United States Senator



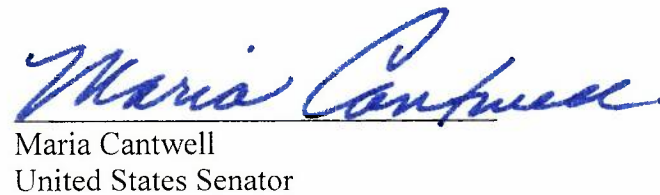
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Patrick Leahy  
United States Senator



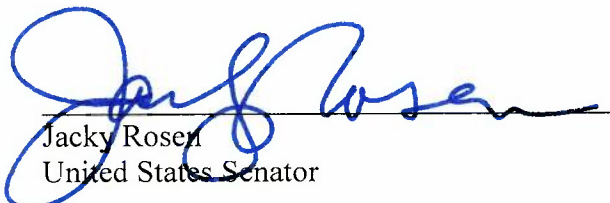
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Doug Jones  
United States Senator



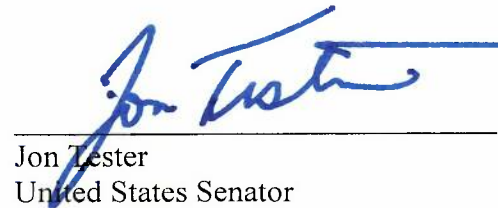
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Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator



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Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator



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Jon Tester  
United States Senator



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Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



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Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator

CC: Mick Mulvaney, Director, Office of Management and Budget