

✓
handy
delivered
2-28

28 February 1996

MEMORANDUM TO MARTHA FOLEY
KEN APFEL

FROM JENNIFER O'CONNOR 

SUBJECT EMERGENCY LIHEAP FUNDING FOR NORTH IDAHO

North Idaho LIHEAP funds are exhausted, and new expenditures have yet to be authorized, which will result in 2000 poor families having their power turned off this Friday. Attached is some background on this matter. What if anything can we/should we do?

Telephone Log for HAROLD ICKES
New Calls

Page #: 1

02/23/96

4:43 PM

FRIEND, PAUL
IDAHO NEWS OBSERVER

Ph #: (208)

Home:

Other

Car:

Fax:

Answered

Taken By: FRANKLIN

02/23/96

4:44 PM

FRIEND, PAUL
IDAHO NEWS OBSERVER

Ph #: (208) 753-0203

Home:

Other

Car:

Fax:

Answered

North Idaho LIHEAP funds not received
LIHEAP funds in this area have been
fully exhausted. 2000 poor families
will hv their pwr cut off nxt Fri.
Can you help?

Taken By: FRANKLIN

SEE ATTACHED
SHEET

2/26 To Jen O'C

Can Anything be done?

Note ASAP to
Martha Foley
Ken Spel
Asking what if anything
we can / should do

North Idaho poor are facing another crisis. This one caused by the uncertainties of Washington, D.C. and Boise. Energy assistance funds, which are annually appropriated by Congress, are reportedly in shortfall. According to Shoshone County Commissioner Jack King only half the budget requested was actually received.

Documents received by the Idaho News Observer, however, indicate that funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), is at 60 percent of Fiscal Year 1992, not the reported 40 percent shortfall from last year being touted by state officials. All raising questions about how funds received by Idaho have been appropriated to different regions of the state.

Washington Water Power says that come March 18, power and gas can be turned off if satisfactory payment arrangements are not made by affected consumers. This leaves people who ordinarily depend upon energy assistance scrambling for funds to meet payment requirements.

Barbara is a client who last year received \$250 in help to pay her approximately \$750 winter energy bill. "In November I was told that funds had not been released due to budget squabbling between the White House and Congress, and I should call back in December," she said. "In December I got the same story. I was told to try again in January and advised to complain to my Congressman. In January I was told to call on Tuesday, January 16 at 8:00 in the morning. I dialed until my finger was sore. They only have one phone line. There were hundreds of people trying to call. They said they were only able to take in 20 people per week to fill out applications. It was after 8:00 before I got

checked and it was too late. They told me to call again on the 22nd and the 29th. It was the same story. Finally, someone put my name on a list and they said they'd call me. I'm still waiting. When I fell behind in my power bill by \$80, a WWP Customer Service Representative demanded \$52 as the lowest payment they would accept. I didn't have it and finally they agreed to take \$5, which was all I had. It's coming up time to pay again and I don't know what I'm going to do."

The problem, according to Susan Nielsen, of Washington Water Power, is that some people think that they don't have to pay their power bill. "They have to realize that the bill has to be paid," she said Friday. "As long as they make a reasonable and good faith effort we're not going to shut off their power. But we have to be fair with our customers. If some people don't pay their bills, our other customers will have to pay higher rates."

NICAA says that the problem is the shortfall of funds. According to a spokesperson interviewed Friday, they are short of workers to intake client applications because they have to pay those workers out of the funds received as well. Energy assistance available in 1992 was approximately \$250 per year per client household. Now it is only a maximum of \$150 per year.

According to Senator Kempthorn's office in Coeur d'Alene, the funding has long since been approved in Washington and the monies released, in even greater quantity than requested. However, a spokesperson for NICAA told the Idaho News Observer that two-thousand qualified clients are going to be left out in the cold by the program this year.

Documents received by the Idaho News Observer from Senator Kempthorn's office in Washington, D.C., indicate that LIHEAP funds were being released to Idaho as early as in November of last year. As of December 18 Idaho had received over \$8,500,000 in funding. By January 31 Idaho had received \$4,786,054, and on February 1, the state received yet another \$550,023, for a total of \$5,342,077, down some 40 percent from approximately \$8.9 Million in 1992. Given that grants have been cut from \$250 to \$150 per household, also a cut of 40 percent, approximately the same number of households should have been helped. So why the problem? Why are 2,000 area homes going unhelped this year? No one seems to have an answer. They just seem to point the finger at each other. "It's a real catch-22," says WWP's Susan Nielsen, indicating that her company is also a victim.

In the meantime the area's poor continue to worry and suffer. According to a volunteer with the Shoshone County Christian Aid Society, the moratorium on WWP turnoffs are predicated upon people having children. "If they come to turn your power off, and see children the landlord has to tell them that the children live in the residence. Otherwise you're off. They can be brutal about it."

Call for further information to Senator Kempthorn's office in Washington, D.C. and to Congressman Helen Chenoweth's office were not returned as of press time due to the federal holiday. In the meantime, poverty in North Idaho takes no holiday. And as the calendar marches on, more and more poor in Shoshone County worry just how they are going to keep the power and the heat on as the March deadline approaches.

From: Paul D. Friend

202-456-2464

ATTN: HAROLD Ickes

CC to Eric Eve
file

Bracy Williams & Company

January 23, 1996

TO: Harold Ickes

FR: Terry Bracy

RE: LIHEAP up-date

With the current continuing resolution expiring at the end of the week, I thought it would make good political sense for the President to mention the ongoing crisis with the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) during his State of the Union address.

A survey of State Energy Assistance Directors in New England, the mid-west, and the upper-tier states indicates that the \$528 million in funds released by the President for LIHEAP in December has been nearly exhausted.

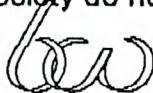
In New England, **Maine** and **Rhode Island** are out of funds while the program in **New Hampshire** has only enough money left to operate for the rest of this week. In **Massachusetts**, the program delayed opening until the December release of funds, but the state director expects the funds to be depleted before the end of February. **Connecticut** and **Vermont** also have obligated their share of the funds released in December and expect to be out of money in February.

In **Iowa**, the program reduced the size of the grants so that it could serve at least the same number of applicants as last year. The state LIHEAP director said that all of the funds received in December have been obligated and there are still several thousand more applications for assistance.

We are still early in the winter heating season and the majority of states in the Northeast, Mid-west, and Northern-tier are either out of funds or expect to be by the end of February.

This is a great opportunity for the President to speak up for the elderly, the working poor and the disabled by asking the Congress to make sure that the rest of the advanced appropriation for LIHEAP be quickly made available in the next continuing resolution.

The President can point out that in December when the government was shut down, he took action and released \$528 million for the program. Those funds have for the most part now been obligated by the states and more funds will be needed to make sure that the most vulnerable members of our society do not suffer needlessly during the rest of this brutal winter.



Government and Public Affairs Consultants

601 Thirteenth Street, N.W. Suite 510 South Washington, DC 20005 (202) 783-5588 FAX (202) 783-5595

file
Lithap '96

- ① Below
 - no specific mention of Lithap in CR
- ② Feel
 - colloquy b/w Livingston & Sanders on it →
- ③ Labor-comm
↓
call DeLoach
↓
 - prog was \$1.3 bill for '96
 - then resuscitated bill
 - revised \$3 bill
 - so \$1.3 left
- ④ Graham's
AA
↓
 - then House zeroes out
 - Senate votes to rescind \$100m
 - o approps \$100m
 - 1st CR pump 90% of last yr
 - 2d CR - same - 75%
 - so put out
 - \$231.7m → then Dec 15
 - gen we put out max 90%

in winter

- so Dec 15 - so \$ going out

so for Lithap, it was
first funded at \$16.
we put out 231.7 already

Highest H+S = \$900m
to 90% that = \$810m

so put out up to
\$810m

→ to go thru 1st 29 weeks
(thru end of March)

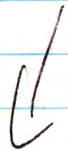
so \$190 left in first funded
part

another energy pot we've
been holding back

so 90% of pot =
another \$90m.

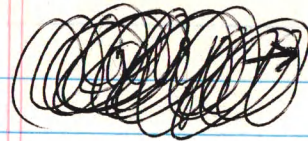
but, I knew what's
decided for the year

OMB drove it



~~that's already up
approp + \$500m
worth -~~

wanted to respect
state so used \$ #



April -

it's imposs

in govt shutdown we
promised way more \$
out than would have

b/c discussions were
perdy, we had to wait
to shutdown

so we promised it
out

Question re emergency \$

Q of if

\$300m -> emergency \$

There's emergency -

PRs has to declare
an emergency

weather emergency -
real hot or
real cold

we may see next
month

\$20 mil over 5 yrs
to create analogy
to Tobacco I

\$10 from cancer society

Novelli will run it

Strategy & media ctr.

Call to
212-854 3056

Beane Sanders

receiving \$190 mil

Thus - head says may
to get put in long to
free them

Jim Walsh talked to
Jim Dyer or committee
wanted it on floor

→

Porter's stuff says
usually \$15 = award

this = precedent not
law → = Potus
keeping intent of Cong.
Porter's stuff says

→ Beane would want to
argue unique case

say you can make a
case for it

all NE offices will shut
down → so can't
spend the extra
\$100 m.

do a nutty on it

→ ① is there a goal vs.
an intent block

② Kate Clarke

HHS NEWS

HHS -
LIHEAP 96

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, Feb. 1, 1996Contact: Michael Kharfen
(202) 401-9215

PRESIDENT CLINTON RELEASES MORE HOME ENERGY FUNDS AS WEATHER TURNS COLDER ACROSS COUNTRY

President Clinton today directed the Department of Health and Human Services to release an additional \$90 million in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds for states, territories and Indian tribes.

HHS had previously released \$810 million for FY 1996, so LIHEAP funding that has been made available for this fiscal year now totals \$900 million.

"Bitter cold temperatures across the country jeopardize the safety of millions of Americans," President Clinton said. "With these critical LIHEAP funds, states can now better ensure basic warmth for children, senior citizens and persons with disabilities."

Last month, while the government was shut down, President Clinton directed the release of LIHEAP funds to states. The cold weather and the reports of states running out of funds prompted him to direct HHS to release this additional support. Although HHS still has no final appropriation bill and the future of the LIHEAP funding remains uncertain, HHS has authority under prior law to grant the funds.

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala said: "The severe winter weather has strained states' resources in helping needy families. President Clinton is determined to support states and prevent the tragic loss of life or home due to these emergencies."

LIHEAP provides funds to help eligible families with fuel costs and weatherization to insulate homes. States determine eligibility and benefit levels. In 1994, within the more than 5.6 million households that received benefits, 1.6 million included senior citizens, 1.1 million had a person with disabilities and 2.8 million were home to children under 18. States report that 70% of the households had incomes below \$8,000 a year.

Following are the additional amounts being made available:

Alabama	\$770,665
Alaska	493,418

- More -

- 2 -

Arizona	376,056
Arkansas	589,830
California	4,120,361
Colorado	1,445,887
Connecticut	1,886,211
Delaware	250,357
District of Columbia	292,932
Florida	1,222,556
Georgia	967,052
Hawaii	97,387
Idaho	556,023
Illinois	5,220,706
Indiana	2,363,789
Iowa	1,675,249
Kansas	769,350
Kentucky	1,230,107
Louisiana	790,171
Maine	1,191,925
Maryland	1,444,248
Massachusetts	3,772,147
Michigan	4,939,527
Minnesota	3,570,952
Mississippi	661,629
Missouri	2,085,354
Montana	576,237
Nebraska	828,474
Nevada	175,575
New Hampshire	714,160
New Jersey	3,494,119
New Mexico	444,439
New York	11,430,739
North Carolina	1,688,287
North Dakota	624,693
Ohio	4,618,495
Oklahoma	657,058
Oregon	1,120,624
Pennsylvania	6,143,250
Rhode Island	618,794
South Carolina	613,913
South Dakota	479,874
Tennessee	1,246,073
Texas	2,034,838
Utah	666,884
Vermont	535,289
Virginia	1,759,255
Washington	1,796,542
West Virginia	814,056
Wisconsin	3,214,369
Wyoming	269,018

Note: Additional amounts are made available to Indian tribes and territories.

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Call Kate Clarr

225-4115

+ need her VT #

HHS NEWS

*file
HHS-
LIHEAP
1996*

DRAFT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, Feb. 1, 1996

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(202) 401-9215

HHS RELEASES MORE HOME ENERGY FUNDS AS WEATHER TURNS COLDER ACROSS COUNTRY

The Clinton Administration today released an additional \$90 million in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds for states, territories and Indian tribes. Previously HHS released \$810 million, the funding now available will total \$900 million.

"Bitter cold temperatures across the country jeopardize the safety of millions of Americans," said the President. "With these critical LIHEAP funds, states can now better ensure basic warmth for children, senior citizens and persons with disabilities."

Secretary Shalala stated that last month the President took executive action and directed the release of LIHEAP funds to states while the federal government was shut down. The extremely cold weather and the reports of states running out of funds prompted the department to release this additional support. Though, HHS still has no appropriation bill and the future of the LIHEAP funding remains uncertain, the current Continuing Resolution gives HHS authority to grant the funds.

"The severe winter storms have strained the resources of states as they helped needy families during these crises," said Secretary Shalala. "The Clinton administration is committed to support states to prevent the tragic loss of life or home due to these emergencies."

LIHEAP provides funds to help eligible families with fuel costs and weatherization to insulate homes. States determine eligibility and benefit levels. In 1994, within the more than 5.6 million households that received benefits, 1.6 million included senior citizens, 1.1 million had a person with disabilities and 2.8 million were home to children under 18. States report that 70% of the households had incomes below \$8,000 a year.

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Barbara Chen
224 0291

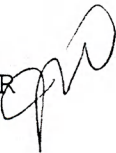
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 30, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR KEN APFEL
MARTHA FOLEY

FROM: JENNIFER O'CONNOR 

SUBJECT: What do we do?

Attached is a letter from Representative Bernard Sanders requesting the release of the remaining \$190 million in Low-Income Housing Energy Assistance Program funds, due to the severity of the cold weather throughout the country.

Please advise on how to proceed. Thank you.

cc: Eric Eve

BERNARD SANDERS
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
VERMONT, AT LARGE

213 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4501
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-4115
FAX: (202) 225-0780

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4501

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FAX: (802) 860-8370

January 26, 1996

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you may know, this week I sent a letter to Appropriations Chairman Bob Livingston, which was signed by 154 Members of Congress, requesting the immediate release of the remaining \$190 million of Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds.

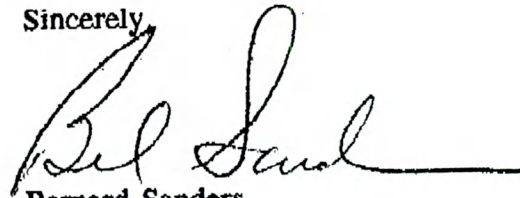
I am happy to inform you that, as a result of these efforts, LIHEAP was spared any cuts in the continuing resolution. In a colloquy between myself and Chairman Livingston on the House floor, Chairman Livingston agreed that the **full commitment** of funds for LIHEAP was available for distribution to states in the normal fashion.

Given the severity of the cold weather this winter, with states like Vermont experiencing temperatures of 40 below zero, and given that states are running out of LIHEAP money, I would appreciate your releasing the remaining \$190 million in LIHEAP funds immediately.

I have enclosed for your review both a copy of the letter to Mr. Livingston and the actual text of the colloquy between the Chairman and myself.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Bernard Sanders
Member of Congress

BS:kc

cc: Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services
Leon Panetta, Chief of Staff to the President
Harold Ickes, Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Political Affairs

THE BALANCED BUDGET DOWNPAYMENT ACT, I (House of Representatives - January 25, 1996)

Mr. SANDERS . Mr. Speaker, I rise to engage in a colloquy with the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. Livingston], the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations.

As the chairman knows, I am particularly concerned with the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. It has been very cold in my part of the country, and during earlier CR's there have been disruptions in funding for this vital program.

The administration has released \$810 million to the States, but I am concerned that the flow of funds to the States could again be disrupted. Generally I would like to know whether this CR will affect the full commitment of funds to the--funds of LIHEAP --to the States. Specifically, is it the chairman's understanding that under the current bill before the House, funds for LIHEAP will be allocated to the States and be available for distribution to the States in the normal fashion?

Mr. LIVINGSTON . Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SANDERS . I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. LIVINGSTON . Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Porter], I would say that it is my understanding and his that the gentleman is correct.

[Page: H892]

Mr. SANDERS . Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much.

January 24, 1996

The Honorable Bob Livingston
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H218 Capitol

Dear Chairman Livingston,

As you know there is approximately \$190 million remaining in FY 1996 allocation for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). When a continuing resolution is developed on January 26th, we would very much appreciate your releasing 100 percent of these funds immediately.

While \$810 million in LIHEAP funds have been released so far this year, these funds are not even half of the LIHEAP monies allotted to the states in FY 1994 and significantly less than the \$1.3 billion allocated in FY 1995. In order to deal with the problems that our cold weather states are currently experiencing, it is essential that the full \$1 billion in LIHEAP funds be released this year.

As you know LIHEAP is a time sensitive program, providing heating assistance to low-income households during the cold winter months. As you also know there has been brutally cold weather throughout America, and states are in desperate need of funding for heating assistance.

Last year, an estimated 6.1 million households received LIHEAP benefits. Three-quarters of those households had incomes of less than \$8,000 per year. The average LIHEAP family spent 18.4 percent of their income on the cost of home energy, compared with 6.7 percent for all households. Unless action is taken immediately, hundreds of thousands of Americans who live in the coldest states will again be unable to heat their homes. We don't want to see families forced from their homes because of unpredictably cold weather.

We encourage you to take immediate action in the next continuing resolution to assist millions of low-income Americans in need of heating assistance this winter.

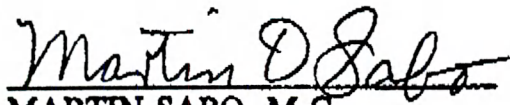
Sincerely,

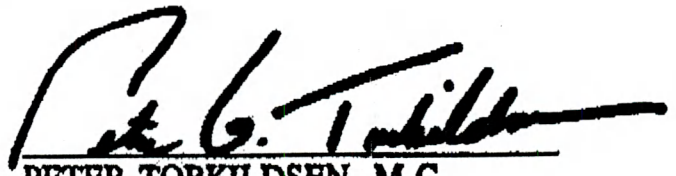


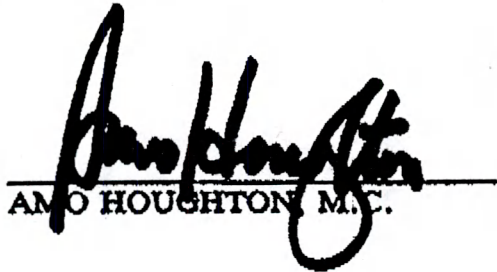
BERNARD SANDERS, M.C.



PETER BLUTE, M.C.


MARTIN SABO, M.C.

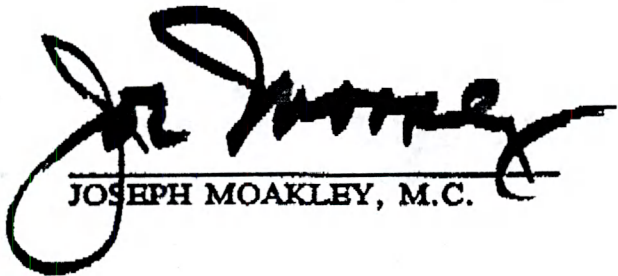

PETER TORKILDSSEN, M.C.


AMO HOUGHTON, M.C.

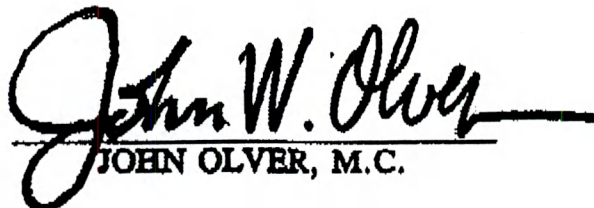

MIKE WARD, M.C.


JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI, M.C.


PHIL ENGLISH, M.C.


JOSEPH MOAKLEY, M.C.


JOSEPH KENNEDY, M.C.


JOHN OLVER, M.C.

Lydia S. L.

Peter McHadden

Thos. J. Johnson

Carrie P. Meek

John W. McHugh

John L. Bond

Donald Wayne

Marbet J.

Cyrus McHenry

Mrs. M. Clayton

AM

Lucas V. Stetson

Albert F. Fyfe

Rip Bowler

Charles Sch

Sherry Baehert

Harry Johnston

Si Johnson

Robert E. Ar

Sam Gilman

Joe E. Ar

Jim Oberstar

Ly. Paul

Lonnie V. Bell

R. R. L.

Sam Gipe

Victor O. Frazer

Shirley Jackson Lee

Ed. Wolfford

Tom Sawyer

Ernest L. Engel

Mike Dake

Sam H. Kelly

Jim Guffy

James E. Clynan

Thomas M. V. Jett

Eugene J. Jett

Earl J. Helman

Frank M. Jett

Ch. B. M. Jett

Carl C. Peterson

Matt J. M. Jett

Frank J. Jett

Rich. J. Jett

Rosa L. DeLaure

Ed. J. Jett

William J. Jett

Paul J. Kennedy

Don Ming

Tim Holden

Richard Skel

Harold N. Volmer

William J. Coyne

Joe 1700

Jim Mc Dermott

Gerry Kenyon

Paul E. Kangas

Gene Longene

Bob Wike

Alan Mollahan

Dina Dini

Louise Slaughter

Norman Smith

George E. Brown, Jr.

Eugene L. Evans

John Schneider

Will H. Hill

John Rev.

Matthew B. Martiney

Chas E Kildee

John A. Fgo

Henry A. W. Brown

William L. Clay

Chas. J. Brown

Lane Evans

Pat Williams

Art Labell

Bill Clugger

Vic Fazio

Henry B. Greysen

Maci Fink

James A. Cott

Barbara

Marcy Kaptur

Jim Pomstad

Barbara B. Kennelly

Joe J. Latacz

Myrle Cechman

Edmund

Wesley

George Miller

Joe P. M.

Nita Lowery

Susan Malineri

John Winger

William Edward Jones

George W. Deane Art Jones

Harold D. Bishop Jr.
Jack Reed
Don Barnett

Doc May
Bill Martin
Blanche Lincoln

Miss Carter

Lynn T. Rivers

Sherrad Brown

Lee Hen

Ray P. Phe

Jim Barcia

Bob Filner

J. D. Day

PP Reeling

Jack Quinn

Paul Spahr

John Lewis

Sally Barker

Michael R. McIntyre

Harold Fied

Edward J. Mearns

Sally Shaw

Lonnie Morella

Gerold Radler

Eddie Bernice Johnson

Norm Dicks

Thomas J. Manton

Sidney R. Yates

Chris Smith

R. T. M.

R. Dyke

Bobby Scott

Lucille Lyndal Allard

Cory A. Smith

Tom Felt

Mr. Langston

Charles C. C. C. C.

Eleanor H. Weston

Harry P. Hall

Frank P. Callaway Jr.

Robert A.

Bon Cardin

David E. Bonin

Maya Roukema

CHAIRMAN LIVINGSTON
PAGE TWELVE

Ch. Lamer

Jim Walsh

SIGNATURES ON LETTER TO CHAIRMAN LIVINGSTON REGARDING LIHEAP - 154

REPRESENTATIVE BERNARD SANDERS
REPRESENTATIVE PETER BLUTE
REPRESENTATIVE MARTIN SABO
REPRESENTATIVE PETER TORKILDSSEN
REPRESENTATIVE AMO HOUGHTON
REPRESENTATIVE MIKE WARD
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPH MOAKLEY
REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPH KENNEDY
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN OLVER
REPRESENTATIVE PHIL ENGLISH
REPRESENTATIVE RICK BOUCHER
REPRESENTATIVE SAM GEJDENSON
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN MCHUGH
REPRESENTATIVE HARRY JOHNSTON
REPRESENTATIVE PAUL MCHALE
REPRESENTATIVE RONALD DELLUMS
REPRESENTATIVE TIM JOHNSON
REPRESENTATIVE JOSE SERRANO
REPRESENTATIVE EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
REPRESENTATIVE NYDIA VELAZQUEZ
REPRESENTATIVE SHEILA JACKSON-LEE
REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL DOYLE
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT BORSKI
REPRESENTATIVE COLLIN PETERSON
REPRESENTATIVE LUIS GUTIERREZ
REPRESENTATIVE SUE KELLY
REPRESENTATIVE CARRIE MEEK
REPRESENTATIVE ALBERT WYNN
REPRESENTATIVE VICTOR FRAZER
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES OBERSTAR
REPRESENTATIVE GLENN POSHARD
REPRESENTATIVE GERRY STUDDS
REPRESENTATIVE BARNEY FRANK
REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS SAWYER
REPRESENTATIVE ED WHITFIELD
REPRESENTATIVE FRANK LOBIONDO
REPRESENTATIVE SHERWOOD BOEHLERT
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT ANDREWS
REPRESENTATIVE EVA CLAYTON
REPRESENTATIVE ELIOT ENGEL
REPRESENTATIVE BENJAMIN GILMAN
REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES SCHUMER
REPRESENTATIVE DONALD PAYNE

REPRESENTATIVE NANCY JOHNSON
REPRESENTATIVE CYNTHIA MCKINNEY
REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD NEAL
REPRESENTATIVE MAJOR OWENS
REPRESENTATIVE ROSA DELAURO
REPRESENTATIVE EARL POMEROY
REPRESENTATIVE ELIZABETH FURSE
REPRESENTATIVE PETER DEFAZIO
REPRESENTATIVE PATRICK KENNEDY
REPRESENTATIVE DAVID MINGE
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES LONGLEY
REPRESENTATIVE MATTHEW MARTINEZ
REPRESENTATIVE PAUL KANJORSKI
REPRESENTATIVE HENRY GONZALEZ
REPRESENTATIVE BOB WISE
REPRESENTATIVE JIM MCDERMOTT
REPRESENTATIVE EDOLPHUS TOWNS
REPRESENTATIVE TIM HOLDEN
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES CLYBURN
REPRESENTATIVE NORMAN SISISKY
REPRESENTATIVE NICK RAHALL
REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE BROWN
REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM COYNE
REPRESENTATIVE FRANK MASCARA
REPRESENTATIVE EARL HILLIARD
REPRESENTATIVE GERALD KLECZKA
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REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM CLINGER
REPRESENTATIVE DALE KILDEE
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REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN MALONEY
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REPRESENTATIVE MARTIN MEEHAN
REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS FOGLIETTA
REPRESENTATIVE FRANK TEJEDA
REPRESENTATIVE IKE SKELTON
REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM CLAY
REPRESENTATIVE PAT WILLIAMS
REPRESENTATIVE JIM RAMSTAD
REPRESENTATIVE ANDREW JACOBS
REPRESENTATIVE VIC FAZIO
REPRESENTATIVE LANE EVANS
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES BARCIA
REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA KENNELLY
REPRESENTATIVE SHERROD BROWN
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT MENENDEZ

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REPRESENTATIVE RON KLINK
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN CONYERS
REPRESENTATIVE LOUISE SLAUGHTER
REPRESENTATIVE JACK REED
REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD VOLKMER
REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM MARTINI
REPRESENTATIVE GARY ACKERMAN
REPRESENTATIVE SANDER LEVIN
REPRESENTATIVE LEE HAMILTON
REPRESENTATIVE STENY HOYER
REPRESENTATIVE SANFORD BISHOP
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES TRAFICANT
REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD DURBIN
REPRESENTATIVE BART STUPAK
REPRESENTATIVE GENE GREEN
REPRESENTATIVE JACK QUINN
REPRESENTATIVE BOB FILNER
REPRESENTATIVE RON WYDEN
REPRESENTATIVE MARCY KAPTUR
REPRESENTATIVE SCOTTY BAESLER
REPRESENTATIVE CONNIE MORELLA
REPRESENTATIVE JERRY COSTELLO
REPRESENTATIVE MARTIN FROST
REPRESENTATIVE JON FOX
REPRESENTATIVE FLOYD FLAKE
REPRESENTATIVE TOM BARRETT
REPRESENTATIVE HENRY WAXMAN
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT NEY
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN MURTHA
REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL CASTLE
REPRESENTATIVE RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN
REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES RANGEL
REPRESENTATIVE JERROLD NADLER
REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE MILLER
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN DINGELL
REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD ESTEBAN TORRES
REPRESENTATIVE LYNN RIVERS
REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE GEKAS
REPRESENTATIVE BOBBY RUSH
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN LAFALCE
REPRESENTATIVE JOHN LEWIS
REPRESENTATIVE BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN
REPRESENTATIVE SUSAN MOLINARI
REPRESENTATIVE ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS MANTON

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REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD MARKEY
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REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTOPHER SMITH
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT SCOTT
REPRESENTATIVE SIDNEY YATES
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT TORRICELLI
REPRESENTATIVE DAVID BONIOR
REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS PETRI
REPRESENTATIVE MARGE ROUKEMA
REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL PATRICK FLANAGAN
REPRESENTATIVE JESSE JACKSON, JR
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES WALSH
REPRESENTATIVE PAT DANNER

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

29-Jan-1996 09:06pm

TO: Kenneth S. Apfel
FROM: Jennifer M. O'Connor
Office of The Chief of Staff
CC: Harold Ickes
SUBJECT: Bernie Sanders request

Ken --

I tried to explain where we are in LIPHEAP to Katie Clarke, Bernie Sanders' legislative director. She says she has done the rounds on the Hill with Porter's and Livingston's and others' staffs and they all disagree with us.

She said the Republicans say that we have no legal obligation to fund merely \$900 million rather than the \$1 billion -- that our decision to do so is just a decision to be courteous to Congress's intent, but that there is no legal restriction. She said Porter's staff said it would be legitimate to accuse us of impounding the money. She also said, if we were ever going to be able to use that extra \$100 million, we need to do it now because the offices that disburse the funds are closing up in most northern states in February and the \$100 million is needed to keep them open so the public gets funds in March.

On the issue of 90% of whatever total, she argues that the states don't spend it all at once anyway -- the states that expect heat save up for hot days. So she says, states should get it all now and allocate as they see fit. She also says that Porter's staff says there is language in the LIHEAP program that allows there to be exceptions made for unique circumstances. She says this is a unique circumstance.

She also said: "...and what about that \$300 million in emergency funds."

After running around the bush for a few minutes, she asked if we could convene a meeting with the relevant administration officials and the Hill staffers for the Representatives who care about this.

What do you think? I thought she made some good points and we would certainly gain points for letting the money go -- should we pull together such a meeting? If so, should we do it with Members or staffs?

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

29-Jan-1996 09:41pm

TO: Jennifer M. O'Connor

FROM: Kenneth S. Apfel
 Office of Mgmt and Budget, HR

CC: Harold Ickes

SUBJECT: RE: Bernie Sanders request

I think a big meeting with the Hill on LIHEAP hurts our position and will make it seem that the President-- if he decides to release emergency money-- is responding, not leading. And if we decide not to declare an emergency-- still a possibility-- then we're gonna be attacked by the bernie sanders of the world. Remember, Sanders was the author of the letter pushing the President to release funds-- which he released even after many on the hill including Obey urged him not to pressure the President until after the CR was completed. As I said, let me do some digging and get some facts together. My recommendation is not to involve the Hill until we have a clearer sense as to our plan. Also, it's interesting that you're hearing that porter is pushing for release. He was the leader of the efforts to zero out the program. I'll check in with his staff director.

HHS NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, Feb. 1, 1996

Contact: Michael Kharfen
(202) 401-9215

PRESIDENT CLINTON RELEASES MORE HOME ENERGY FUNDS AS WEATHER TURNS COLDER ACROSS COUNTRY

President Clinton today directed the Department of Health and Human Services to release an additional \$90 million in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds for states, territories and Indian tribes.

HHS had previously released \$810 million for FY 1996, so LIHEAP funding that has been made available for this fiscal year now totals \$900 million.

"Bitter cold temperatures across the country jeopardize the safety of millions of Americans," President Clinton said. "With these critical LIHEAP funds, states can now better ensure basic warmth for children, senior citizens and persons with disabilities."

Last month, while the government was shut down, President Clinton directed the release of LIHEAP funds to states. The cold weather and the reports of states running out of funds prompted him to direct HHS to release this additional support. Although HHS still has no final appropriation bill and the future of the LIHEAP funding remains uncertain, HHS has authority under prior law to grant the funds.

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala said: "The severe winter weather has strained states' resources in helping needy families. President Clinton is determined to support states and prevent the tragic loss of life or home due to these emergencies."

LIHEAP provides funds to help eligible families with fuel costs and weatherization to insulate homes. States determine eligibility and benefit levels. In 1994, within the more than 5.6 million households that received benefits, 1.6 million included senior citizens, 1.1 million had a person with disabilities and 2.8 million were home to children under 18. States report that 70% of the households had incomes below \$8,000 a year.

Following are the additional amounts being made available:

Alabama	\$770,665
Alaska	493,418

- More -

- 2 -

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Utah	666,884
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Virginia	1,759,255
Washington	1,796,542
West Virginia	814,056
Wisconsin	3,214,369
Wyoming	269,018

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fill
liheapTelephone Log for HAROLD ICKES
New Calls

Page #: 1

02/23/96 4:43 PM ☐ Answered	FRIEND, PAUL IDAHO NEWS OBSERVER Ph #: (208) Home: Other Car: Fax:	Taken By: FRANKLIN
02/23/96 4:44 PM ☐ Answered	FRIEND, PAUL IDAHO NEWS OBSERVER Ph #: (208) 753-0203 Home: Other Car: Fax:	North Idaho LIHEAP funds not received LIHEAP funds in this area have been fully exhausted. 2000 poor families will hv their pwr cut off nxt Fri. Can you help? Taken By: FRANKLIN

SEE ATTACHED
SHEET

2/26 TO Jen O'C

Can Anything be done?

9
2/28 shina,Anything going on
with this?Done
26 FEB 96martha/
ken A
getting back home

Idaho's poor are facing another crisis, this one caused by the bureaucracy of Washington, D.C. and Boise. Energy assistance funds, which are annually appropriated by Congress, are reportedly in shortfall. According to Shoshone County Commissioner Jack King, only half the budget requested was actually received.

Documents received by the Idaho News Observer, however, indicate that funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), is at 60 percent of Fiscal Year 1992, not the reported 40 percent shortfall from last year being touted by state officials. All raising questions about how funds received by Idaho have been appropriated to different regions of the state.

Washington Water Power says that come March 15, power and gas can be turned off if satisfactory payment arrangements are not made by affected consumers. This leaves people who ordinarily depend upon energy assistance scrambling for funds to meet payment requirements.

Barbara is a client who last year received \$250 in help to pay her approximately \$750 winter energy bill. "In November I was told that funds had not been released due to budget squabbling between the White House and Congress, and I should call back in December," she said. "In December I got the same story. I was told to try again in January and advised to complain to my Congressman. In January I was told to call on Tuesday, January 16 at 8:00 in the morning. I dialed until my finger was sore. They only have one phone line. There were hundreds of people trying to call. They said they were only able to take in 20 people per week to fill out applications. It was after 8:00 before I got

through." They told me to call again on the 22nd and the 29th. It was the same story. Finally, someone put my name on a list and they said they'd call me. I'm still waiting. When I fell behind in my power bill by \$80, a WWP Customer Service Representative demanded \$62 as the lowest payment they would accept. I didn't have it and finally they agreed to take \$5, which was all I had. It's coming up time to pay again and I don't know what I'm going to do."

The problem, according to Susan Nielsen, of Washington Water Power, is that some people think that they don't have to pay their power bill. "They have to realize that the bill has to be paid," she said Friday. "As long as they make a reasonable and good faith effort we're not going to shut off their power. But we have to be fair with our customers. If some people don't pay their bills, our other customers will have to pay higher rates."

NICAA says that the problem is the shortfall of funds. According to a spokesperson interviewed Friday, they are short of workers to intake client applications because they have to pay those workers out of the funds received as well. Energy assistance available in 1992 was approximately \$250 per year per client household. Now it is only a maximum of \$150 per year.

According to Senator Kempthorn's office in Coeur d'Alene, the funding has long since been approved in Washington and the monies released, in even greater quantity than requested. However, a spokesperson for NICAA told the Idaho News Observer that two-thousand qualified clients are going to be left out in the cold by the program this year.

Information from Senator Kempthorn's office in Washington, D.C. and Congressman Helen Chenoweth's office in Boise, indicates that LIHEAP funds were being released to Idaho as early as in November of last year. As of December 18 Idaho had received over \$8,500,000 in funding. By January 31 Idaho had received \$4,736,054, and on February 1, the state received yet another \$556,923, for a total of \$5,842,977, down some 40 percent from approximately \$8.9 Million in 1992. Given that grants have been cut from \$250 to \$150 per household, also a cut of 40 percent, approximately the same number of households should have been helped. So why the problem? Why are 2,000 area homes going un-helped this year? No one seems to have an answer. They just seem to point the finger at each other. "It's a real catch-22," says WWP's Susan Nielsen, indicating that her company is also a victim.

In the meantime the area's poor continue to worry and suffer. According to a volunteer with the Shoshone County Christian Aid Society, the moratorium on WWP turnoffs are predicated upon people having children. "If they come to turn your power off, and see children the landlord has to tell them that the children live in the residence. Otherwise you're off. They can be brutal about it."

Call for further information to Senator Kempthorn's office in Washington, D.C. and to Congressman Helen Chenoweth's office were not returned as of press time due to the federal holiday. In the meantime, poverty in North Idaho takes no holiday. And as the calendar marches on, more and more poor in Shoshone County worry just how they are going to keep the power and the heat on as the March deadline approaches.

From: Paul D. Friend

202-456-2464

ATTN: Harold Ickes