



**HUMAN SERVICES & WELFARE AND
AGRICULTURE & ENERGY COMMITTEES UPDATE:
*LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)***

Updated June 2, 2011

Final FY 2011 Funds Released

In a May 19th letter to states, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the release of the final FY 2011 LIHEAP block grant funds. The letter outlined the release of the additional FY 2011 block grant awards as well as provided updates on final tribal allocations, clarification of state median income requirements, discussed the status of FY 2011 emergency contingency funds and the Leveraging program and the REACHES program in FY 2011.

The LIHEAP block grant incurred a funding rescission of .20% across the board to a total just over \$4.5 billion. All tribal allocation plans have been finalized and it has been determined that small adjustments were necessary in four states, Alaska, Montana, New Mexico, and North Dakota, for the FY 2011 awards. The change did not alter the states' gross allocation, but only the split between state and tribal grantees. There are no further emergency LIHEAP contingency funds available for the remainder of FY 2011 as well as no FY 2011 funding available for the leveraging and REACH programs for the remainder of the year. The funds that are normally set aside for the leveraging and REACH programs were folded into the overall block grant total. The letter also clarified that the 60% State Median Income (SMI) eligibility now applies to all LIHEAP funds to be awarded to grantees by HHS after April 15, 2011.

Final FY 2011 Weatherization Funding Levels Announced

In related news, the U.S. Department of Energy released its FY 2011 operating plan that outlines how FY 2011 funds will be utilized. The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) received \$174.3 million with \$3.3 million of that amount going to technical assistance. DOE funded WAP at \$250 million in FY'09, and the Recovery Act provided \$5 billion. WAP funding is focused on reducing heating bills for cost-effective efficiency and weatherization measures.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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