

CO-SPONSOR S. 3186, THE WARM IN WINTER AND COOL IN SUMMER ACT, TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR LIHEAP

S. 3186, the Warm in Winter and Cool in Summer Act would provide immediate relief to millions of senior citizens, families with children and the disabled who are struggling to pay their home energy bills. Specifically, this bill would nearly double the funding for the highly successful Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Current Co-Sponsors of S. 3186:

S. 3186 enjoys broad bi-partisan support and is being co-sponsored by Senators Obama, Coleman, Landrieu, Smith, Durbin, Snowe, Murray, Sununu, Cardin, Collins, Leahy, Murkowski, Clinton, Gregg, Cantwell, Lugar, Kerry, Dole, Kennedy, Schumer, Brown, Klobuchar, Menendez, Casey, Bingaman, and Stabenow.

Groups Supporting S.3186:

S. 3186 has also been endorsed by the AARP; American Corn Growers Association; the American Gas Association; the Federation of Southern Cooperatives; the Ohio Farmers Union; the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union; the National Grange; Oklahoma Farmers Union; Texas Farmers Union; the Pennsylvania Farmers Union; the National Conference of State Legislatures; the National Community Action Foundation; the National Association of State Energy Officials; the Alliance for Rural America; the Northeast Public Power Association; the National Consumer Law Center, on behalf of its low-income clients; the National Association for State Community Services Programs; Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy; the Edison Electric Institute; the Association of Energy Conservation Professionals; the National Fuel Funds Network; the Petroleum Marketers Association of America; Office of the Ohio Consumers' Council; Exelon Corporation; and Women Involved In Farm Economics.

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Why This Bill Is Needed:

The skyrocketing price of home heating oil, propane, kerosene, natural gas and electricity is stretching the household budgets of millions of families with children, senior citizens on fixed incomes and persons with disabilities beyond the breaking point.

Today, there is one federal program to help the most vulnerable people in this country stay warm in the winter and cool in the summer. That program is LIHEAP, and that program is needed now more than ever.

Unfortunately, the spike in energy costs is completely eviscerating the purchasing power of this extremely important program.

Due to insufficient funding, the average LIHEAP grant only pays for 18 percent of the total cost of heating a home with heating oil in the winter; 21 percent of residential propane costs; 41 percent of natural gas costs; and 43 percent of electricity costs. What this means is that low income families with children; senior citizens on fixed incomes and persons with disabilities will have to make up the remaining costs out of their own pockets.

And, only 16 percent of eligible LIHEAP recipients currently receive assistance with their home energy bills. What that means is that 84% of eligible low-income families with children, senior citizens on fixed incomes and persons with disabilities do not receive any LIHEAP assistance whatsoever due to a lack of funding.

How much will your state receive in LIHEAP funding under this bill?

To find out how much your state will receive in additional LIHEAP funding under this bill, please see next page.

How much extra LIHEAP funding would your State receive under S.3186, the Warm in Winter and Cool in Summer Act?

State	Total Amount
Alabama.....	\$52,207,684
Alaska.....	\$17,224,945
Arizona	\$24,680,040
Arkansas	\$25,935,782
California	\$104,391,398
Colorado	\$30,941,799
Connecticut.....	\$59,797,655
Delaware.....	\$10,504,003
District of Columbia....	\$4,417,781
Florida.....	\$80,747,364
Georgia.....	\$70,287,805
Hawaii	\$1,423,198
Idaho	\$8,241,310
Illinois.....	\$117,386,938
Indiana.....	\$54,371,472
Iowa.....	\$24,565,050
Kansas.....	\$26,126,049
Kentucky.....	\$34,848,044
Louisiana.....	\$44,396,681
Maine	\$36,596,392
Maryland	\$52,460,930
Massachusetts	\$98,973,680
Michigan.....	\$114,609,254
Minnesota	\$52,362,731
Mississippi.....	\$25,751,789
Missouri.....	\$70,266,851
Montana	\$17,484,318
Nebraska.....	\$21,896,359
Nevada	\$11,591,748
New Hampshire	\$27,079,492
New Jersey.....	\$80,311,579
New Mexico	\$11,318,104
New York.....	\$250,435,966
North Carolina	\$79,433,121
North Dakota	\$18,992,480
Ohio.....	\$112,567,399
Oklahoma.....	\$36,381,394
Oregon	\$11,251,668
Pennsylvania	\$210,357,690
Rhode Island	\$21,088,119
South Carolina.....	\$37,911,568
South Dakota	\$15,425,279
Tennessee.....	\$47,606,182
Texas.....	\$134,336,826
Utah.....	\$17,758,527
Vermont	\$20,567,956
Virginia	\$59,805,322
Washington	\$17,316,565
West Virginia	\$15,394,074
Wisconsin	\$47,133,976
Wyoming.....	\$7,109,737
Territories	\$346,926