



HR0899

LRB100 21098 MST 36965 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The recent federal budget proposed by President Trump includes a total elimination of federal funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); such a reduction will threaten the continuation of a number of State of Illinois initiatives that have relied on the LIHEAP program; and

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WHEREAS, LIHEAP is a vital lifeline to low income families, working poor households, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities in meeting their energy needs throughout the State of Illinois; it also assists with the stability critical for child development; and

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WHEREAS, Low income families, working poor households, many senior citizens, and persons with disabilities are often unable to afford essential utility services and other necessities, such as food, shelter, and medical care; and

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WHEREAS, The health and safety of those who are unable to afford essential utility services suffer when monthly payments for these services exceed a reasonable percentage of the customer's household income; and

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WHEREAS, The LIHEAP program is an important part of a

1 two-part energy assistance strategy designed by the State of
2 Illinois to provide energy assistance payments to low income
3 households through LIHEAP while promoting energy efficiency
4 through the Department of Energy weatherization program; and

5 WHEREAS, LIHEAP is a targeted block grant program, which
6 provides built-in flexibility in federal-state partnerships
7 that assist low-income customers to meet their bill payment
8 obligations, to prevent service terminations in winter and heat
9 emergencies, to help households make the transition from public
10 assistance, and to weatherize homes and repair defective
11 heating equipment; and

12 WHEREAS, Many low income Illinoisans do not have sufficient
13 income to pay for the basic necessities of life and are
14 experiencing a crisis in paying home energy bills, thereby
15 contributing to a health and safety crisis which becomes
16 disruptive to Illinois families and children; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
18 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
19 support adequate and uninterrupted federal funding for the Low
20 Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP); and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Congressional
22 Delegation to advocate for appropriate and sufficient funding

1 for LIHEAP for the coming federal fiscal year; and be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
4 provided to all members of the Illinois Congressional
5 Delegation.