

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 030156)

RESOLUTION

Calling on Pennsylvania's Department of Public Welfare to continue the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) until all of its federally appropriated money is spent this year on helping low-income residents with their home heating needs.

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (DPW) administers LIHEAP, which consists of the following components: cash benefits given to low-income households for their home heating fuel; crisis payments to resolve weather related, supply shortage and other household energy emergencies, including immanent loss of heating due to inability to pay; and energy conservation and weatherization measures to address long-range solutions to home-heating problems faced by low-income households; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Government each year appropriates money for LIHEAP to Pennsylvania's Department of Public Welfare to distribute within various regions of the Commonwealth. For FY 2002-2003, the Federal LIHEAP appropriation for Pennsylvania was approximately \$136 million; and

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WHEREAS, DPW began its LIHEAP services on November 12, 2002 and it is expected that their services will close on March 27, 2003; and

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WHEREAS, For FY 2001-2002, DPW closed the program having over \$10 million in unspent LIHEAP money in their budget, which carried over into their FY 2002-2003 budget; and

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WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has received additional LIHEAP monies for use in this FY 2002-2003; and

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WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of low-income residents and seniors in Philadelphia have suffered through one of the most severe winters in the city's history and now face insurmountable energy bills and a loss of gas and electric heating service in a matter of weeks; and

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WHEREAS, LIHEAP as a matter of public policy as well as conscience should continue to operate until all of its federally appropriated money reaches this City's low-income residents and seniors for whom these federal funds were intended; and

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RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That Pennsylvania's Department of Public Welfare continue 2002-2003 LIHEAP Program Year until all of its federally appropriated LIHEAP money is spent for FY 2002-2003.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the thirteenth of March, 2003.

Anna C. Verna
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers DiCicco, Kenney, Cohen and Ortiz

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Goode, Miller, Clarke, Tasco, Rizzo, Mariano, Reynolds Brown, Blackwell, O'Neill, Council President Verna, Nutter and Krajewski

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