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MAURA T. HEALEY
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KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
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October 5, 2026

The Honorable Senator Susan Collins
Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Senator Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Congressman Tom Cole
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
2207 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressional Leaders:

I write today to thank you for rejecting the Trump Administration's proposal to eliminate the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in Federal Fiscal Year 2027 (FFY27) and maintaining funding at the level already reflected in your committee's own bipartisan drafts. I strongly urge you to build on your commitment to this critical program by providing an additional \$3 billion in emergency appropriations to fund the program at a total of \$7 billion to

reflect the extreme energy cost increases people in Massachusetts, and across the country currently face.

For the thousands of Massachusetts households that rely on LIHEAP to heat their homes each winter, and for millions of families across the nation, this funding is not discretionary; it is a critical lifeline that protects families from the very real dangers of being unable to afford essential heat during the winter months. Keeping LIHEAP funding at its current level would mean fewer households are able to receive assistance, at a time when demand for the program is likely to be at its highest. We cannot afford to leave these families in the cold.

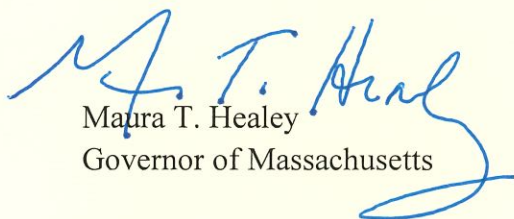
Since the outbreak of the war in Iran, crude oil prices, which previously traded around \$72 per barrel, have now increased to more than \$100 per barrel. Massachusetts, more than most states in the country, relies heavily on heating oil during the winter months, meaning that the price increases driven by the conflict with Iran translate directly into higher heating costs for our constituents. Without increased funding for LIHEAP, these conflict-driven costs will translate to colder winters for the people we represent.

During the 2025-2026 heating season, the Massachusetts Home Energy Assistance Program provided over 157,000 Massachusetts households with financial assistance to heat their homes through the winter. The majority of those households, 55 percent, were seniors on a fixed income and approximately 11 percent of the households assisted have children under the age of 6.

I once again urge you to continue your commitment to LIHEAP by providing an additional \$3 billion in emergency appropriations for the program, funding it at a total of \$7 billion to keep these families warm this winter.

Massachusetts stands ready to work with you to help address this issue and ensure individuals who need heating assistance the most can access it. We are glad to provide any additional information that you need on the critical impact of the LIHEAP to bolster your continued support for the program. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Maura T. Healey
Governor of Massachusetts