
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 45

Session of
1995

INTRODUCED BY BOYES, MICHLOVIC, GANNON AND TRELLO,
FEBRUARY 6, 1995

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
FEBRUARY 6, 1995

A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the President and the Congress of the United
2 States to maintain the current Low-Income Home Energy
3 Assistance Program funding.

4 WHEREAS, The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is
5 a federally funded program to help low-income families pay their
6 heating bills; and

7 WHEREAS, Eligibility for the program is set at 135% of
8 poverty level, maximum income of \$19,900 for a family of four,
9 and LIHEAP reaches fewer than one-half of the eligible
10 households in this Commonwealth; and

11 WHEREAS, Persons can apply for one LIHEAP grant a year and
12 one crisis payment for emergency situations with the average
13 LIHEAP grant being \$167 and average crisis grant \$130; and

14 WHEREAS, LIHEAP serves this Commonwealth's citizens with
15 great needs where 32% of those receiving aid are Social Security
16 recipients, 26% welfare recipients, 20% working poor, 11%
17 supplemental security income recipients and 3% on unemployment
18 benefits; and

1 WHEREAS, The program is not available during times of
2 greatest need, thereby exacerbating health and safety needs; and

3 WHEREAS, The average LIHEAP grant assisted the neediest gas
4 utility customers with 40.6% of their gas bills in 1985 but only
5 provided assistance for 17.4% of the gas bills in 1994, one of
6 the worst winters in the history of the country; and

7 WHEREAS, This heating season, 1994-1995, the Federal
8 appropriation for LIHEAP in this Commonwealth is \$89.7 million,
9 the lowest in the history of the program; and

10 WHEREAS, Sources of funds used by states to supplement LIHEAP
11 such as the Energy Conservative Assistance Fund (ECAAF), oil
12 overcharge funds will be exhausted in 1995; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives memorialize the
14 President and the Congress of the United States to maintain the
15 1994-1995 funding levels for LIHEAP, to refrain from further
16 reductions and to reject any proposal to reduce LIHEAP funding.