

Enterprise Community Partners \* Georgia Watch \* National Housing Trust \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* Partnership for Southern Equity \* Southface

Dear Representative,

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program**, and the **Weatherization Assistance Program**. These programs are proven solutions at reducing poverty and housing instability and improving family outcomes in Georgia.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 359,518 households in Georgia spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Georgia as well, as it has created 168,710 job years for Georgia workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include \$16.08 billion of local income generated and \$6.33 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 135,000 low-income households in Georgia, and more than 61 percent of households served are extremely low income. Eighty-six percent of households served in Georgia have an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 120,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Georgia, totaling \$44 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the state of Georgia received \$6.3 million in WAP investment which created \$28.5 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Enterprise Community Partners  
Georgia Watch

National Housing Trust  
Natural Resources Defense Council

Partnership for Southern Equity

Southface

Action Now Institute \* Chicago Jobs with Justice \* Chicago Votes \* Citizens Against Ruining the Environment \* Citizens Utility Board \* Eco-Justice Collaborative \* Elevate Energy \* Environmental Defense Fund \* Faith in Place \* Illinois Environmental Council \* Illinois Housing Council \* Illinois People's Action \* Little Village Environmental Justice Organization \* Metro East Green Alliance \* Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* Nuclear Energy Information Service \* Oak Park Climate Action Committee \* ONE Northside \* People for Community Recovery \* Respiratory Health Association \* Service Employees International Union Illinois \* Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter \* The People's Lobby Education Institute \* Union of Concerned Scientists

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.**

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 439,958 households in Illinois spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Illinois as well, as it has created 94,470 job years for Illinois workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include \$9 billion of local income generated and \$3.54 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 220,000 low-income households in Illinois, and more than 69 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Eighty-six percent of households served in Illinois had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 335,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Illinois, totaling \$181.9 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the State of Illinois received \$11.65 million in WAP investment which created \$52.4 million in economic benefits. In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Tom Balanoff  
President  
Service Employees International  
Union Illinois

Dawn Dannenbring-Carlson  
Organizer  
Illinois People's Action

Allison Milld Clements  
Executive Director  
Illinois Housing Council

Jack Darin  
Director  
Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter

Brad DeZur  
Co-Moderator  
Oak Park Climate Action Committee

Diane Fager  
Member  
ONE Northside

Laura Goldberg  
Midwest Energy Efficiency  
Advocate  
Natural Resources Defense Council

Christie Hicks  
Manager, Clean Energy Regulatory  
Implementation  
Environmental Defense Fund

Susan Hurley  
Executive Director  
Chicago Jobs with Justice

Cheryl Johnson  
Executive Director  
People for Community Recovery

Katelyn Johnson  
Executive Director  
Action Now Institute

J.C. Kibbey  
Midwest Outreach and  
Policy Advocate  
Union of Concerned Scientists

Dave Kolata  
Executive Director  
Citizens Utility Board

David A. Kraft  
Director  
Nuclear Energy Information Service

Anne McKibbin  
Policy Director  
Elevate Energy

Grace Pai  
Community Organizer  
The People's Lobby Education  
Institute

Stacey Paradis  
Executive Director  
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

Ellen Rendulich  
Director  
Citizens Against Ruining the  
Environment

Pam Richart  
Co-Founder/Co-Director  
Eco-Justice Collaborative

Elizabeth Scrafford  
Senior Organizing Representative  
Metro East Green Alliance

Brian P. Urbaszewski  
Director, Environmental Health  
Programs  
Respiratory Health Association

Stevie Valles  
Executive Director  
Chicago Votes

Rev. Booker Steven Vance  
Policy Director  
Faith in Place

Jennifer Walling  
Executive Director  
Illinois Environmental Council

Kimberly Wasserman  
Executive Director  
Little Village Environmental Justice  
Organization

Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility \* Fuel Fund of Maryland \* Green & Healthy Homes Initiative \*  
Interfaith Power & Light \* Maryland Affordable Housing Coalition \* Maryland Alliance of Energy Contractors \*  
National Consumer Law Center, on behalf of its low-income clients \* National Housing Trust \* Natural Resources  
Defense Council \* New Ecology, Inc. \* Public Justice Center

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.**

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 183,549 households in Maryland spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Maryland as well, as it has created 66,568 job years for Maryland workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include \$6.34 billion of local income generated and \$2.5 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 66,568 low-income households in Maryland and 75 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Ninety percent of households served in Maryland had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 117,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Maryland, totaling \$75 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the State of Maryland received \$33.76 million in WAP investment which created \$151.9 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Fuel Fund of Maryland  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
Interfaith Power & Light

Maryland Affordable Housing Coalition  
Maryland Alliance of Energy Contractors  
National Consumer Law Center, on behalf of its low-income clients

National Housing Trust  
Natural Resources Defense Council

New Ecology, Inc.  
Public Justice Center

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America - Michigan Chapter \* Bridging Communities \* Cinnaire \* Community Economic Development Association of Michigan \* DeCiBeL Energy \* Detroit Local Initiatives Support Corporation \* Dwelling Place \* Ecology Center \* EcoWorks \* GreenHome Institute \* MI Air MI Health \* Michigan League for Public Policy \* Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance \* National Housing Trust \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* Parker Arntz \* United States Networking and Planning; Building A Community

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.**

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 298,193 households in Michigan spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Michigan as well, as it has created 105,345 job years for Michigan workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include \$10.04 billion of local income generated and \$3.95 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 145,000 low-income households in Michigan, and 64 percent of households served were extremely low income. Ninety percent of households served in Michigan had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 342,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Michigan, totaling \$39.2 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the State of Michigan received \$20.54 million in WAP investment which created \$92.3 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Alexis Blizman  
Policy Director  
Ecology Center

Annika Brink  
Energy Efficiency Advisor  
National Housing Trust

Brett Little  
Executive Director  
GreenHome Institute

Dennis Sturtevant/Karen  
Monroe  
CEO/Controller  
Dwelling Place

Jamie Shriner  
Executive Director  
Community Economic  
Development Association of  
Michigan

Julie Cassidy  
Policy Analyst  
Michigan League for Public  
Policy

Justin Schott  
Executive Director  
EcoWorks

Kathleen Slonager  
Executive Director  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation  
of America - Michigan Chapter

Kellie Green  
Policy, Research, and Advocacy  
Coordinator  
Cinnaire

Kindra Weid  
Coalition Coordinator  
MI Air MI Health

Laura Goldberg  
Midwest Energy Efficiency  
Advocate  
Natural Resources Defense  
Council

Linda Smith  
Executive Director  
United States Networking and  
Planning; Building A Community

Matt Cook  
Energy Optimization Manager  
Parker Arntz

Phyllis Edwards  
Executive Director  
Bridging Communities

Stacey Paradis  
Executive Director  
Midwest Energy Efficiency  
Alliance

Stephen Christensen  
Principal  
DeCiBeL Energy

Victor Abl  
Regional Preservation Director  
Detroit Local Initiatives Support  
Corporation



City of Minneapolis \* Community Stabilization Project \* Ecolibrium3 \* Fresh Energy \* Greater Minnesota Housing Fund \* Hope Community \* Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance \* Minnesota Housing \* Minnesota Housing Partnership \* National Housing Trust \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* Sustainable Resources Center

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.**

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 143,646 households in Minnesota spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. LIHTC provides significant economic benefits for Minnesota as well, as it has created 56,134 job years for Minnesota workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include \$5.35 billion of local income generated and \$2.11 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 93,000 low-income households in Minnesota, and 66 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Ninety percent of households served in Minnesota had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 135,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Minnesota, totaling \$124.7 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the State of Minnesota received \$19.18 million in WAP investment which created \$86.3 million in economic benefits.

Sincerely,

City of Minneapolis \* Community Stabilization Project \* Ecolibrium3 \* Fresh Energy \* Greater Minnesota Housing Fund \*  
Hope Community \* Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance \* Minnesota Housing \* Minnesota Housing Partnership \* National  
Housing Trust \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* Sustainable Resources Center

Spencer Cronk  
City Coordinator  
City of Minneapolis

Will Delaney  
Associate Director  
Hope Community

Anne Mavity  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Housing Partnership

Jodi Slick  
CEO  
Ecolibrium3

Stacey Paradis  
Executive Director  
Midwest Energy Efficiency  
Alliance

Annika Brink  
Energy Efficiency Advisor  
National Housing Trust

Michael Noble  
Executive Director  
Fresh Energy

Metric Giles  
Executive Director  
Community Stabilization Project

Laura Goldberg  
Midwest Energy Efficiency  
Advocate  
Natural Resources Defense  
Council

Warren Hanson  
President and CEO  
Greater Minnesota Housing  
Fund

Mary Tingerthal  
Commissioner  
Minnesota Housing

Jed Norgaarden  
Executive Director  
Sustainable Resources Center

Beyond Housing \* City of St. Louis, Building Division \* Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis \* DeSales Community Development \* Elevate Energy \* Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance \* Missouri Workforce Housing Association \* National Housing Trust \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* North Newstead Association \* Park Central Development \* Renew Missouri Advocates \* Tower Grove Neighborhoods Community Development Corporation \* U.S. Green Building Council –  
Missouri Gateway Chapter

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.**

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 181,238 households in Missouri spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Missouri as well, as it has created 81,076 job years for Missouri workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include \$7.73 billion of local income generated and \$3.04 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 96,000 low-income households in Missouri, and 62 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Ninety percent of households served in Missouri had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 140,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Missouri, totaling \$44.8 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the State of Missouri received \$14.3 million in WAP investment which created \$64.3 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Abdul-Kaba Abdullah  
Executive Director  
Park Central Development

Annika Brink  
Energy Efficiency Advisor  
National Housing Trust

Chris Krehmeyer  
President/CEO  
Beyond Housing

Cliff Pouppirt  
Construction Manager  
Elevate Energy

Emily Andrews  
Executive Director  
U.S. Green Building Council –  
Missouri Gateway Chapter  
James Owen  
Executive Director  
Renew Missouri Advocates

Jeff Smith  
Executive Director  
Missouri Workforce Housing  
Association

Laura Goldberg  
Midwest Energy Efficiency  
Advocate  
Natural Resources Defense Council

Rajiv Ravulapati  
Technical Advisor  
City of St. Louis, Building Division

Sal Martinez  
President  
Community Builders Network of  
Metro St. Louis

Sal Martinez  
Executive Director  
North Newstead Association

Sean Spencer  
Executive Director  
Tower Grove Neighborhoods  
Community Development Corp.

Stacey Paradis  
Executive Director  
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

Thomas J. Pickel  
Executive Director  
DeSales Community Development

Dear Representative,

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Private Activity Tax Exempt Bonds** and the **Weatherization Assistance Program**.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** -- both 9% credit and 4% credit coupled with private activity tax exempt bonds -- provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 1,019,491 households in New York spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for New York as well, as it has created 202,391 jobs for New York workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include \$19.29 billion of local income generated and \$7.59 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986. **Private Activity Tax Exempt Bonds** allows Housing Finance Agencies and governmental entities to sell Housing Bonds to investors, who accept a lower rate of return than they would receive on other investments because the interest on the bonds is exempt from federal income tax. Developers then benefit from a lower interest rate on affordable rental housing, which ultimately translates to lower rent prices.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 576,000 low-income households in New York, and 69 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Eighty-five percent of households served in New York had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes in which to live. Over 1.2 million households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in New York, totaling \$368.02 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the State of New York received \$57.8 million in WAP investment which created \$260 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Association for Energy Affordability  
Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
Local Initiatives Support Coalition New York City  
National Housing Trust  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
New York Working Families  
Pace University

Conservation Consultants Inc. (CCI) \* Environmental Justice Center of Chestnut Hill United Church \* Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania \* National Housing Trust \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* Pennsylvania Council of Churches \* Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light \* Pennsylvania Utility Law Project, on behalf of our low-income clients \* Sierra Club \* Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network (UUPLAN) \* Unitarian Universalists Climate Action Teams \* Unitarian Universalists Pennsylvania Environmental Justice Legislative Action Network

Dear Representative,

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.**

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 416,206 households in Pennsylvania spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Pennsylvania as well, as it has created 97,353 job years for Pennsylvania workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include \$9.28 billion of local income generated and \$3.65 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 216,000 low-income households in Pennsylvania, and 66 percent of households served are extremely low-income. Ninety-one percent of households served in Pennsylvania have an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 398,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Pennsylvania, totaling \$222.7 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the state of Pennsylvania received \$42.7 million in WAP investment which created \$192.1 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Jeaneen A. Zappa  
Conservation Consultants Inc. (CCI)

Joy Bergey  
Environmental Justice Center of Chestnut Hill United  
Church

Tori Bourret  
Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania

National Housing Trust

Natural Resources Defense Council

Rev. Sandra L. Strauss  
Pennsylvania Council of Churches

Rev. Doug Hunt  
Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light

Patrick Cicero  
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Pennsylvania Utility Law Project, on behalf of our  
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Thomas Schuster  
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Anita Mentzer  
Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative  
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Rev. Doug Hunt  
Unitarian Universalists Climate Action Teams

Rev. Doug Hunt  
Unitarian Universalists Pennsylvania Environmental  
Justice Legislative Action Network



Chesapeake Climate Action Network \* Community Housing Partners \* Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) \* National Housing Trust \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* New Virginia Majority \* Norfolk Redevelopment Housing Authority \* Virginia Energy Efficiency Council \* Virginia Housing Alliance \* Virginia Poverty Law Center \* Viridiant

Dear Representative,

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.**

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 257,055 households in Virginia spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Virginia as well, as it has created 115,865 job years for Virginia workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the Commonwealth include \$11.04 billion of local income generated and \$4.35 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate \$460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 103,000 low-income households in Virginia, and 70 percent of households served are extremely low-income. Eighty-nine percent of households served in Virginia have an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP's impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 193,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Virginia, totaling \$55.5 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514. In 2015, the Commonwealth of Virginia received \$15.4 million in WAP investment which created \$69.2 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

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