

August 29, 2025

The Honorable Susan Collins Chair Senate Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray Vice Chair Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman House Appropriations Committee U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support Adequate Funding for the Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program and State Energy Program

Dear Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chairman Cole, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We, the undersigned coalition of 70 companies and weatherization stakeholders, write to urge you to support adequate Fiscal Year 2026 funding for the Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and State Energy Program (SEP) to continue current operations and programs.

The Alliance to Save Energy (Alliance) is a leading non-profit, bipartisan and fuel-neutral energy efficiency policy organization consisting of a coalition of manufacturers, utilities, technology companies, environmental advocates, and others who are committed to advancing the role of energy efficiency in U.S. energy policy, and its value in achieving energy affordability, grid reliability, and energy security.

Since its creation in 1976, WAP has helped improve the lives of over 7.2 million low-income and rural Americans—individuals particularly susceptible to high energy burdens. Congress has consistently shown strong bipartisan support for this program, which enables upgrades that save households an average of \$372 or more in average annual energy costs every year. Every \$1 invested in weatherization yields \$1.72 in energy benefits, and also \$2.78 in non-energy benefits. After participating, families have homes that are healthier and more livable; participants report decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of \$514, as well as \$538 in savings due to fewer missed days of work. The Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that the total health and household-related benefits for each weatherized unit average around \$14,148. In the face of rising energy prices, providing sufficient funding for the program will ensure that these benefits continue to flow directly to consumers.

¹ Department of Energy, Weatherization Assistance Program, https://www.energy.gov/scep/wap/weatherization-assistance-program.

² Ibid.

³ Office of State & Community Energy Programs, "Weatherization Assistance Program", 2023. https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-08/2023-WAP-Fact-Sheet.pdf

⁴ Oak Ridge National Lab, "Weatherization Works - Summary of Findings from the Retrospective Evaluation of the U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program", 2014. https://weatherization.ornl.gov/wp-content/uploads/pdf/WAPRetroEvalFinalReports/ORNL_TM-2014 338.pdf

In addition to reducing energy costs, WAP supports local jobs for the organizations and contractors providing weatherization services to households across the country. According to DOE, the annual funds provided by WAP support 8,500 jobs every year. Much of WAP's work is on the ground—performing in-home installations or maintenance—and these jobs support local economies and cannot be outsourced.

Adequate support for the Weatherization Readiness Fund (WRF) is also vital, which is separate from WAP's base program. WRF allows state programs to address barriers to weatherization, such as structural deficiencies, outdated wiring, or health risks like mold and asbestos, allowing more homes to qualify for WAP. Addressing these issues gives states and local agencies the flexibility to reach more low-income homeowners currently ineligible for funding under WAP. Adequate appropriations for the Weatherization Readiness Fund help ensure that eligible homeowners can access WAP funds to make their households safer, healthier, and more energy efficient.

SEP provides formula funding to the 56 states, territories, and the District of Columbia to enhance energy security, advance state-led energy development and grid modernization initiatives and increase energy affordability. Through SEP funding provided by Congress, State Energy Offices realize substantial benefits for American families, communities, and businesses. State SEP investments have resulted in the modernization of State Energy Emergency planning and response to reduce the impact of natural disasters and cyber-attacks, reduced energy waste and costs in more than 20,000 buildings (143 million square feet); advanced cost-effective industrial energy efficiency actions to improve competitiveness; led energy savings performance contracts for public facility energy retrofits; and supported STEM energy education at K-12 schools.⁵

We urge you to fully support Weatherization Assistance Program and State Energy Program funding in FY26. Please contact Jason Reott (<u>ireott@ase.org</u>) with any questions.

Sincerely,

Alliance to Save Energy (ASE) Alliance for Water Efficiency (A4WE)

American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE)

American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE)

American Gas Association (AGA)

ASHRAE

Association of Energy Engineers (AEE)

Boca Systems, Inc.

Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE)

Cady and Guyton Construction

Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers Association (CIMA)

City of Seattle

Community in Action

Complete Exteriors

Con Edison

Copeland

Dennis White Designs

Duke Energy

E4TheFuture

ECOER, INC.

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⁵ Office of State Community Energy Programs (SCEP), State Energy Program: Fact Sheet, 2023. https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-12/SEP-fact-sheet-2023 0.pdf

EcoMentor S.A.

Elise Couillard LLC

Emerald Cities Collaborative

Energy Control, Inc.

EnergyPrint

Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI)

Franklin Energy

Global Cooling, Inc., dba Stirling Ultracold

Greenfiber

Greenlite Lighting Corporation

Innerglass Window Systems, LLC

Institute for Market Transformation (IMT)

International WELL Building Institute (IWBI)

John H. Stark Architecture

MC Green Solutions, LLC

Mid America Assistance Coalition

Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA)

Moss Supply Company

National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSP)

National Association of Energy Service Companies (NAESCO)

National Association of State Energy Offices (NASEO)

National Consumer Law Center (NCLC)

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)

Nomad Energy Group, LLC

North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE)

North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA)

Northeast Energy Efficiency and Electrification Council (NEEEC)

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP)

Oldak Consulting

Parallel Housing, Inc.

Partnership for Southern Equity

Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA)

Seattle City Light

Slocomb Windows and Doors

Snohomish PUD

Solstice Home Performance

Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA)

Southern California Edison

Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP)

Supreme Green Energy Inc

The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW)

Transource

Unlimited Windows

Uplight

VEIC

Vtronix

Walker-Miller Energy Services

Washington State Community Action Partnership (WSCAP)

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency

Weather Blanket Insulation

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