

**MaineHousing**  
**Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**  
**Weatherization Waiver Request**

MaineHousing intends to request the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to waive the maximum percentage limits placed on funds used for weatherization services within the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Currently, Maine has allocated fifteen percent (15%) of our FFY 2018 LIHEAP funds to weatherization. We are requesting approval to use up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the FFY 2018 LIHEAP grant for weatherization. Maine is still taking and processing applications for fuel assistance. Therefore, the precise amount available for transfer cannot be determined at this time. After payment of all eligible applications, Maine will transfer additional funds to weatherization if total grant expenditures are projected to be less than ninety percent (90%) of the FFY 2018 grant award.

All eligible applicants will be served so that the requested transfer to weatherization will not have any adverse effect on fuel assistance applicants' ability to receive benefits.

Prior to submitting the waiver request, we will hold a public hearing on the waiver, accept comments after the hearing, and ask the Board to approve the waiver.

**Households Served and Energy Assistance Provided**

<b>FFY 2017</b>	
LIHEAP Grant Award	\$37,791,532
Energy Assistance	\$22,435,951
Households Served	30,807

<b>FFY 2018 (estimated)</b>	
LIHEAP Grant Award	\$38,793,016
Energy Assistance	\$24,406,900
Households Served	29,300

### **Weatherization Assistance**

Maine strongly supports low-cost residential weatherization as a way to help low-income Mainers reduce energy costs. All weatherization activities are included in the most recent state plan submitted on September 1, 2017. LIHEAP weatherization activities carried out in this fiscal year for which the waiver is requested have been installed in accordance with the Department of Energy requirements. All weatherization measures must produce measurable savings – savings to investment ratio must be greater than or equal to 1.0. Our analysis shows that on average, a Maine household receiving weatherization will realize a twenty-five to thirty percent (25% to 30%) reduction in home heating costs.

With one of the oldest housing stocks in the country, Maine has a significant number of LIHEAP-eligible households in need of weatherization services.

### **Waiver Public Hearing and Comment Period**

MaineHousing will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 to receive testimony on its proposal to increase the weatherization allocation from fifteen percent (15%) to up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the FFY 2018 grant award.

Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Monday, July 2, 2018.