

Set Schedule

Set

Heat

SET

HOLD

RUN

## THE PROBLEM:

- Governor Lamont's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) allocation plan anticipates \$79 million in federal funds, a decrease of more than \$50 million from last year; representing a 40% cut. This is also lower than pre-pandemic LIHEAP levels.
- Under the Governor's plan, benefit levels will be slashed. The poorest families' home heating oil assistance will be cut to \$1,890, down from \$4,825 last year, \$2,980 pre pandemic.
- Middle-income families are increasingly among those struggling to pay the bills with home energy prices rising at the fastest rate in over a decade.

## CONNECTICUT POST

CT Post • August 22, 2022

**As energy bills rise, CT program to help families pay for heat faces dip in federal funding**

## THE SOLUTION:

CT Republican lawmakers are proposing an amendment to the allocation plan that will:

- Restore funding to continue current LIHEAP benefit amounts at Fiscal Year 2022 levels. This will prevent CT's poorest residents from seeing their home heating oil assistance reduced by thousands of dollars.
- Expand assistance to more residents by providing a \$330 benefit to households making between 61%-120% of state median income. This reaches a family of four earning approximately \$150,000 or less.
- Address deliverability concerns and ensure an adequate number of vendors are able to participate in LIHEAP to meet the needs of CT families.

### IF WE DO NOTHING...

Crucial home heating assistance decrease for all families. Poorest families will face a loss of **nearly \$3,000.**

No expansion of relief to working- and middle-class families facing historic home heating oil price increases.

### IF WE PASS THE AMENDMENT...

All families see home heating assistance **restored.**

New **\$330 benefit** for working- and middle-class families facing record-breaking energy costs.

## WILL THIS HELP MY FAMILY?

YES, if you currently receive energy assistance through LIHEAP.

YES, if your household earns between 61%-120% of state median income (for a family of four, approximately \$150K or less).

