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Senator John Kerry
Springfield Federal Building
1550 Main Street, Suite 304
Springfield, MA 01103

Dear Senator Kerry,

As a legislator serving residents from western Massachusetts, many of whom struggle each year with the high cost of home heating, I wanted to thank you for your recent letter to President Obama regarding funding the LIHEAP program.

Residents of the communities I represent have consistently struggled with higher than average rates of unemployment and were particularly impacted by the wave of foreclosures in recent years. Though many have benefited from increased funding for weatherization and energy conservation, many continue to be overburdened financially by high energy and home heating costs. Unless and until our nation fully addresses the comprehensive energy and conservation challenges, residents of cold weather states will remain dependant on this assistance to meet their basic needs. Not to provide such resources, especially in such an economy would be unconscionable.

Thank you again for you support and leadership to bring to these solutions to the forefront of public policy.

Sincerely,

DENISE ANDREWS
State Representative