

TO: Interested Parties  
FROM: Deirdre Nunes  
Date: July 2, 2025  
Re: Public Hearing for Review of the Rhode Island 2026 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) State plan.

In accordance to Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) 42-35, notice is hereby given that the Department of Human Services proposes the following DHS State Plan:

### **2026 Rhode Island Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Block Grant is funded through the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The purpose of LIHEAP is to assist Rhode Island's income eligible households meet the increasing cost of home energy and reduce the severity of a home energy related crisis. Funds are also used to improve the energy efficiency of income eligible homes. Rhode Island's LIHEAP is administered by the RI Department of Human Services. The daily work of LIHEAP such as intake, outreach, and payments are handled by local Community Action Agencies (CAAs).

This proposed FFY 2026 LIHEAP Rhode Island State Plan summary is accessible on the DHS website <https://dhs.ri.gov/regulations/proposed-rules-regulations-hearings> or available in hard copy upon request (401) 462-6424 or by emailing [deirdre.nunes@dhs.ri.gov](mailto:deirdre.nunes@dhs.ri.gov). A public hearing will be held to consider the proposed plan on Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 10:00 AM by the RI Department of Human Services located at the Louis Pasteur Building, 25 Howard Avenue, Building 57, Cranston, RI. Persons wishing to testify may do so by signing up at the hearing. You may also submit written testimony by noon on Monday, July 28, 2025 to Deirdre Nunes, Department of Human Services, Louis Pasteur Building, 25 Howard Avenue, Building 57, Cranston, RI 02920, or email to [deirdre.nunes@dhs.ri.gov](mailto:deirdre.nunes@dhs.ri.gov).

The hearing will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will conclude when the last speaker finishes testimony or at noon whichever comes first. The RI Department of Human Services, Louis Pasteur Building is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals with hearing impairments may request an interpreter's presence by calling 711 or RI Relay at 1-800-745-6575 (Voice) or 1-800-745-5555 (TTY). Requests for this service must be made at least 72 hours in advance of the Hearing date.

The RI Department of Human Services does not discriminate against individuals based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religious belief, political belief, or handicap.