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APPROPRIATIONS FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

REQUEST AND AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES' LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



MARCH 6, 2000.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed

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THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, February 16, 2000.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: In accordance with provisions of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, as enacted by section 1000(a)(4) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2000, Public Law 106–113, I hereby request and make available appropriations of $120,000,000 in budget authority for the Department of Health and Human Services' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. These funds will enable the Department to address the needs of 31 States that have been most seriously affected by increases in heating oil prices this winter.

I hereby designate the $120,000,000 made available today as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

Enclosure.

[Estimate No. 4, 106th Cong., 2d Sess.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,
Washington, DC, February 16, 2000.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House.

Submitted for your consideration is a request to make available $120.0 million in emergency appropriations for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Your approval of this request would make available previously appropriated funds to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to address the needs of 31 States that have been most seriously affected by increases in heating oil prices this winter.

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, as enacted by section 1000(a)(4) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2000, P.L. 106–113, provided $300.0 million for LIHEAP, contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement. To date, you have released $175.0 million of this emergency funding to address needs arising from substantial increases in home heating fuel costs across the country and $5.0 million to provide support to New Jersey in the wake of Hurricane Floyd.

I recommend that you designate this request for $120.0 million as an emergency requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. No further congressional action will be required.

I have carefully reviewed this proposal and am satisfied that it is necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Secretary of Health and Human Services in recommending that you make the requested funds available by signing the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

JACOB J. LEW,
Director.

Enclosure.

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS: AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED MADE AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT

Department of Health and Human Services	
Administration for Children and Families:	
Low-income home energy assistance program	$120,000,000

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, as enacted by section 1000(a)(4) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2000,

Public Law 106–113, provided $300,000,000 for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement.

Of the $300,000,000 in contingent emergency appropriations, $180,000,000 has been designated as an emergency requirement and made available. At this time, the remaining $120,000,000 in contingent funding is required to assist 31 States that have been most seriously affected by increases in heating oil prices this winter.

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