

NOTICE OF STAKEHOLDERS' PUBLIC HEARING ON
THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
AFFAIRS

NJ STATE PLAN and GRANT APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2026
FOR THE LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Please take notice that the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Housing and Community Resources, Office of Low-Income Energy Conservation, will conduct a Stakeholder Public hearing regarding the New Jersey Model Plan for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' FFY 2026 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and changes to the State LIHEAP Handbook.

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to accept comments on the following proposed changes to the program and to include the changes in the State LIHEAP Handbook.

- 1. Emergency Assistance (Crisis Assistance) to Renters.**
- 2. Maintain benefit amounts at the current rate.**
- 3. Maintain the income eligibility threshold at 60% of the State Median Income.**
- 4. Acceptance of utility Critical Care Program Certification form for cooling verification.**

The Public Hearing will be held in **Room 129, DCA Building at 101 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08625 on Friday, July 11, 2025, at 10:30am**. Please kindly indicate your interest to participate to fidel.ekhelar@dca.nj.gov before the close of business on Monday, July 7, 2025.

The Public Hearing is being held pursuant to Section 2605 of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 as amended by the Human Services Reauthorization Act of 1986.

The Model Plan and State LIHEAP Handbook have been posted on the Department's website and can be accessed by using the following links:

Those interested in providing input during the Meeting are required to submit a written copy of their comments prior to the meeting.

Additional comments for consideration may be submitted by mailing the document to the address listed below. To ensure timely receipt, submissions must arrive by the close of business on Monday, July 7, 2025.

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Division of Housing and Community Resources
Office of Home Energy Assistance
Fidel Ekhelar, LIHEAP Supervisor
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