Huge numbers of people in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic struggle and sacrifice to afford energy bills—a fact most residents in the region understand and would even pay more to help rectify, a new poll commissioned by Energy Efficiency for All shows.

The poll asked: Would you say that you or your family must make sacrifices in terms of your monthly budget to afford your utility bills?

As many people with incomes below $40K report making serious sacrifices than people making $80K or more.

As many Black communities report making serious sacrifices to afford their utility bills compared to white communities.

Angela Gilltrap, a board member for a Harlem, New York low-income co-op, remembers a brutal winter when the building’s boiler went out for five days during a blizzard. The co-op struggled to find the funds to replace the out-dated boiler and relied on a weatherization program for a replacement.

“You can never underestimate the joy of hot water until you have none”

Northeast/Mid-Atlantic voters want to see people treated fairly and equitably. Keeping renters on an even footing is very popular.

Make sure low-income renters are getting the same benefits as everyone else when it comes to energy-efficiency programs.

88% favor 10% oppose

*These findings and recommendations are based on a poll of N=1,600 registered voters, including N=400 in the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic (New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia) conducted from June 26 through July 1, 2018 via landline and cellphone. The margin of error for each region is +/- 4.9%.
EVEN WHEN ASKED TO PAY, A MAJORITY OF VOTERS IN THE NORTHEAST/MID-ATLANTIC SUPPORT THE PROPOSALS.

Most voters are willing to pay for energy efficiency improvements for households of limited income.

- **59%** of voters support helping low-income and working-class households make their homes more energy efficient, by adding **FIFTY CENTS** to every customer’s monthly electric bill.

- **47%** of voters support helping low-income and working-class households make their homes more energy efficient, by adding **ONE DOLLAR** to every customer’s monthly electric bill.