Dear Representative,

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program**, **Section 8 project-based rental assistance**, **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program**, and the **Weatherization Assistance Program**. These programs are proven solutions at reducing poverty and housing instability and improving family outcomes in Georgia.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 359,518 households in Georgia spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Georgia as well, as it has created 168,710 job years for Georgia workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include $16.08 billion of local income generated and $6.33 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 135,000 low-income households in Georgia, and more than 61 percent of households served are extremely low income. Eighty-six percent of households served in Georgia have an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP’s impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 120,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Georgia, totaling $44 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the state of Georgia received $6.3 million in WAP investment which created $28.5 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Enterprise Community Partners
Georgia Watch
National Housing Trust
Natural Resources Defense Council
We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 439,958 households in Illinois spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Illinois as well, as it has created 94,470 job years for Illinois workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include $9 billion of local income generated and $3.54 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 220,000 low-income households in Illinois, and more than 69 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Eighty-six percent of households served in Illinois had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP’s impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 335,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Illinois, totaling $181.9 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the State of Illinois received $11.65 million in WAP investment which created $52.4 million in economic benefits. In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Tom Balanoff
President
Service Employees International Union Illinois

Dawn Dannenbring-Carlson
Organizer
Illinois People’s Action

Allison Milld Clements
Executive Director
Illinois Housing Council
Jack Darin  
Director  
Sierra Club, Illinois Chapter

Susan Hurley  
Executive Director  
Chicago Jobs with Justice

Stacey Paradis  
Executive Director  
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

Brad DeZur  
Co-Moderator  
Oak Park Climate Action Committee

Cheryl Johnson  
Executive Director  
People for Community Recovery

Ellen Rendulich  
Director  
Citizens Against Ruining the Environment

Diane Fager  
Member  
ONE Northside

Katelyn Johnson  
Executive Director  
Action Now Institute

Pam Richart  
Co-Founder/Co-Director  
Eco-Justice Collaborative

Laura Goldberg  
Midwest Energy Efficiency Advocate  
Natural Resources Defense Council

J.C. Kibbey  
Midwest Outreach and Policy Advocate  
Union of Concerned Scientists

Elizabeth Scrafford  
Senior Organizing Representative  
Metro East Green Alliance

Christie Hicks  
Manager, Clean Energy Regulatory Implementation  
Environmental Defense Fund

Dave Kolata  
Executive Director  
Citizens Utility Board

Brian P. Urbaszewski  
Director, Environmental Health Programs  
Respiratory Health Association

Anne McKibbin  
Policy Director  
Elevate Energy

Stevie Valles  
Executive Director  
Chicago Votes

Grace Pai  
Community Organizer  
The People’s Lobby Education Institute

Rev. Booker Steven Vance  
Policy Director  
Faith in Place

David A. Kraft  
Director  
Nuclear Energy Information Service

Jennifer Walling  
Executive Director  
Illinois Environmental Council

Katelyn Johnson  
Executive Director  
Action Now Institute

Kimberly Wasserman  
Executive Director  
Little Village Environmental Justice Organization
We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 183,549 households in Maryland spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Maryland as well, as it has created 66,568 job years for Maryland workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include $6.34 billion of local income generated and $2.5 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 66,568 low-income households in Maryland and 75 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Ninety percent of households served in Maryland had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP’s impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 117,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Maryland, totaling $75 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the State of Maryland received $33.76 million in WAP investment which created $151.9 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility
Fuel Fund of Maryland
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Interfaith Power & Light

Maryland Affordable Housing Coalition
Maryland Alliance of Energy Contractors
National Consumer Law Center, on behalf of its low-income clients
National Housing Trust
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Ecology, Inc.
Public Justice Center
We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program**, **Section 8 project-based rental assistance**, **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program**, and the **Weatherization Assistance Program**.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 298,193 households in Michigan spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Michigan as well, as it has created 105,345 job years for Michigan workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include $10.04 billion of local income generated and $3.95 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 145,000 low-income households in Michigan, and 64 percent of households served were extremely low income. Ninety percent of households served in Michigan had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP’s impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 342,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Michigan, totaling $39.2 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the State of Michigan received $20.54 million in WAP investment which created $92.3 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Role</th>
<th>Organization/Institute</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexis Blizman</td>
<td>Policy Director</td>
<td>Ecology Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annika Brink</td>
<td>Energy Efficiency Advisor</td>
<td>National Housing Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brett Little</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>GreenHome Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Sturtevant/Karen</td>
<td>CEO/Controller</td>
<td>Dwelling Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamie Shriner</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Community Economic Development Association of Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Cassidy</td>
<td>Policy Analyst</td>
<td>Michigan League for Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Schott</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>EcoWorks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Slonager</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America - Michigan Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kellie Green</td>
<td>Policy, Research, and Advocacy Coordinator</td>
<td>Cinnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindra Weid</td>
<td>Coalition Coordinator</td>
<td>MI Air MI Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Goldberg</td>
<td>Midwest Energy Efficiency Advocate</td>
<td>Natural Resources Defense Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Smith</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>United States Networking and Planning; Building A Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Cook</td>
<td>Energy Optimization Manager</td>
<td>Parker Arntz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phyllis Edwards</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Bridging Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey Paradis</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Christensen</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>DeCiBeL Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor Abla</td>
<td>Regional Preservation Director</td>
<td>Detroit Local Initiatives Support Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Cook</td>
<td>Energy Optimization Manager</td>
<td>Parker Arntz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit** program, **Section 8 project-based rental assistance**, **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program**, and the **Weatherization Assistance Program**.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 143,646 households in Minnesota spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. LIHTC provides significant economic benefits for Minnesota as well, as it has created 56,134 job years for Minnesota workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include $5.35 billion of local income generated and $2.11 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 93,000 low-income households in Minnesota, and 66 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Ninety percent of households served in Minnesota had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP’s impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 135,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Minnesota, totaling $124.7 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the State of Minnesota received $19.18 million in WAP investment which created $86.3 million in economic benefits.

Sincerely,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spencer Cronk</td>
<td>City Coordinator</td>
<td>City of Minneapolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jodi Slick</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Ecolibrium3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Noble</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Fresh Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren Hanson</td>
<td>President and CEO</td>
<td>Greater Minnesota Housing Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Delaney</td>
<td>Associate Director</td>
<td>Hope Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey Paradis</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metric Giles</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Community Stabilization Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Tingerthal</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Minnesota Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Mavity</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Minnesota Housing Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annika Brink</td>
<td>Energy Efficiency Advisor</td>
<td>National Housing Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Goldberg</td>
<td>Midwest Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>Natural Resources Defense Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jed Norgaarden</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Sustainable Resources Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit) provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 181,238 households in Missouri spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Missouri as well, as it has created 81,076 job years for Missouri workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include $7.73 billion of local income generated and $3.04 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 96,000 low-income households in Missouri, and 62 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Ninety percent of households served in Missouri had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP’s impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 140,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Missouri, totaling $44.8 million for the state.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the State of Missouri received $14.3 million in WAP investment which created $64.3 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abdul-Kaba Abdullah</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Park Central Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annika Brink</td>
<td>Energy Efficiency Advisor</td>
<td>National Housing Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Krehmeyer</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
<td>Beyond Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cliff Pouppirt</td>
<td>Construction Manager</td>
<td>Elevate Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Andrews</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>U.S. Green Building Council – Missouri Gateway Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Owen</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Renew Missouri Advocates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Smith</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Missouri Workforce Housing Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Goldberg</td>
<td>Midwest Energy Efficiency Advocate</td>
<td>Natural Resources Defense Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajiv Ravulapat</td>
<td>Technical Advisor</td>
<td>City of St. Louis, Building Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sal Martinez</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Spencer</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Tower Grove Neighborhoods Community Development Corp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey Paradis</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas J. Pickel</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>DeSales Community Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Representative,

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program**, **Section 8 project-based rental assistance**, **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program**, **Private Activity Tax Exempt Bonds** and the **Weatherization Assistance Program**.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** -- both 9% credit and 4% credit coupled with private activity tax exempt bonds -- provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 1,019,491 households in New York spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for New York as well, as it has created 202,391 jobs for New York workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include $19.29 billion of local income generated and $7.59 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986. **Private Activity Tax Exempt Bonds** allows Housing Finance Agencies and governmental entities to sell Housing Bonds to investors, who accept a lower rate of return than they would receive on other investments because the interest on the bonds is exempt from federal income tax. Developers then benefit from a lower interest rate on affordable rental housing, which ultimately translates to lower rent prices.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 576,000 low-income households in New York, and 69 percent of households served were extremely low-income. Eighty-five percent of households served in New York had an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the State of New York received $57.8 million in WAP investment which created $260 million in economic benefits.
In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Association for Energy Affordability
Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Local Initiatives Support Coalition New York City
National Housing Trust
Natural Resources Defense Council
New York Working Families
Pace University
Dear Representative,

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit) provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 416,206 households in Pennsylvania spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Pennsylvania as well, as it has created 97,353 job years for Pennsylvania workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the state include $9.28 billion of local income generated and $3.65 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 216,000 low-income households in Pennsylvania, and 66 percent of households served are extremely low-income. Ninety-one percent of households served in Pennsylvania have an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP’s impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 398,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Pennsylvania, totaling $222.7 million for the state.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the state of Pennsylvania received $42.7 million in WAP investment which created $192.1 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,
Jeaneen A. Zappa
Conservation Consultants Inc. (CCI)
Joy Bergey
Environmental Justice Center of Chestnut Hill United Church
Tori Bourret
Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania
Rev. Sandra L. Strauss
Pennsylvania Council of Churches
Rev. Doug Hunt
Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light

Patrick Cicero
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Utility Law Project, on behalf of our low-income clients

Thomas Schuster
Sierra Club

Anita Mentzer
Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network (UUPLAN)

Rev. Doug Hunt
Unitarian Universalists Climate Action Teams

Rev. Doug Hunt
Unitarian Universalists Pennsylvania Environmental Justice Legislative Action Network
Dear Representative,

We write to share information about federal housing and energy programs including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Section 8 project-based rental assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

The **Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit)** provides the private sector with an incentive to invest in affordable rental housing. Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than 2.8 million affordable apartments nationwide, at a rate of nearly 100,000 per year. These properties have provided roughly 6.7 million low-income families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities homes they can afford. These affordable housing investments are crucial, as 257,055 households in Virginia spend more than half of their monthly income on rent. The Housing Credit provides significant economic benefits for Virginia as well, as it has created 115,865 job years for Virginia workers. Other economic benefits of the Housing Credit for the Commonwealth include $11.04 billion of local income generated and $4.35 billion of tax revenue generated since 1986.

The **Section 8 project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program** is a public-private partnership which provides rental assistance for 1.2 million low- and very low-income households across the country. Privately owned properties with project-based Section 8 assistance generate $460 million in property taxes for local municipalities annually and directly support 55,000 jobs. The program serves 103,000 low-income households in Virginia, and 70 percent of households served are extremely low-income. Eighty-nine percent of households served in Virginia have an elderly member, young child or disabled member.

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** provides federal funds to states to use to help low-income households pay for heating and cooling costs, for crisis assistance, weatherization assistance, and services (such as counseling) to reduce the need for energy assistance. LIHEAP’s impact in many cases goes beyond providing bill payment assistance by playing a crucial role in maintaining family stability and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. It enables elderly citizens to live independently and ensures that young children have safe, warm homes to live in. Over 193,000 households received LIHEAP heating assistance in 2014 in Virginia, totaling $55.5 million for the state.

The **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)** reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. WAP supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds. Through the weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average $283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. After weatherization, families have homes that are more livable, resulting in fewer missed days of work (i.e. sick days, doctor visits) and decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses by an average of $514. In 2015, the Commonwealth of Virginia received $15.4 million in WAP investment which created $69.2 million in economic benefits.

In sum, these programs help increase and preserve access to affordable housing and ensure families are living in safe housing with energy costs they can afford. They help families climb the economic ladder, lead to greater community development, and bolster economic productivity.

Sincerely,

Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Community Housing Partners
National Housing Trust

Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP)
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Virginia Majority
Norfolk Redevelopment Housing Authority
Virginia Energy Efficiency Council

Virginia Housing Alliance
Virginia Poverty Law Center
Viridiant