

## **FY 2006 Appropriations Status (as of 12/12/05)**

Since full year funding for FY06 was not approved as of September 30, 2005, the end of the federal fiscal year, the Congress passed a continuing resolution providing for the lesser of the House or Senate spending level through December 17, 2005.

In FY05, Congress provided \$2.18 billion for LIHEAP (\$1.88 billion in regular grant authority and \$297.6 million in emergency funds). No funds were provided for advance funding.

### **FY06 Key Actions**

- The President's Budget request for FY06 would reduce regular grant funding from FY05 levels by \$88 million to \$1.8 billion and emergency fund authority by \$97.6 million to \$200 million, thus reducing total spending by \$186 million.
- The House passed FY06 Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations bill would increase regular grant funding by \$206 million to \$2.08 billion, but would provide no emergency fund authority, thus reducing total spending by about \$180 million. (6/24/05)
- The Senate passed FY06 Labor, HHS, Education appropriations bill would provide \$1.88 billion in grant funds and \$300 million in emergency funds, about the same level of funding as was provided in FY 05. (10/27/05)
- The House/Senate Conference on Labor, HHS, Educations appropriations agreed to provide \$2.183 billion, about the same level as provided in FY 2005. However, the Conference would increase funding for the regular grant portion of the bill from \$1.88 billion to \$2.0 billion and reduce the emergency funds portion from \$297 million to \$183 million. (11/16/05)
- The House rejected the conference committee by a vote of 209 to 224. (11/17/05)
- The Senate passed by a vote of 66-28 a measure instructing a motion instructing the Senate conferees to treat LIHEAP as emergency spending, thereby adding an additional \$2.2 billion to the spending bill. This would result in no additional funds for LIHEAP. (11/18/05).
- The House Reconciliation bill, but not the Senate Reconciliation bill, provides \$1 billion for LIHEAP that would be allocated through the regular program grant formula. (11/18/05)

The National Energy Assistance Directors' Association (NEADA) has called upon the Congress to increase FY 2006 LIHEAP funding to \$5.1 billion to address rising number of families requesting assistance and increasing energy prices. This is the same level of funding as was authorized by the Energy Policy Act.

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