LIHEAP helps low-income households and seniors with their energy bills, providing vital assistance during the cold winter months. LIHEAP households are among the most vulnerable in the country. According to the National Energy Assistance Director’s Association (NEADA), nearly 90 percent of LIHEAP recipients have at least one household member who is a child, elderly or disabled. For these households, LIHEAP funding has been a lifeline during challenging economic times. PMAA member companies’ market over 95 percent of the heating fuel sold in the United States. Heating fuel marketers have a unique relationship with their customers and communities that electric and natural gas utilities cannot provide. Heating fuel dealers are mostly small, second and third generation family-owned businesses who provide both fuel supply and service for heating fuel equipment for millions of customers nationwide. Thus, they are on the front lines every winter day to make sure their customers stay warm, by having reliable fuel and equipment services.

**PHASE 3 CORONAVIRUS PACKAGE PROVIDES $900 MILLION FOR LIHEAP**

On March 27, President Trump signed the “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act,” a $2.2 trillion spending program to help mitigate the effects of the pandemic. The bill included $900 million for LIHEAP to help low-income households pay their heating fuel bills during the crisis.

Then, in May, the House passed along party lines another coronavirus relief package known as the “Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act,” which would include an additional $1.5 billion in funding for LIHEAP. PMAA is a member of the National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition (NEUAC) that is urging Congress to pass an additional $4.3 billion for LIHEAP to help the millions more households that will be affected by the virus.

**“THE ASK” Committees: House and Senate Appropriations Committees; All lawmakers**

- Urge all members to support an additional $4.3 billion in funding for LIHEAP in any upcoming coronavirus relief package.

**PMAA STAFF CONTACT:** Sherri Stone, sstone@pmaa.org