

THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCES VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

This notice advises the public that the South Carolina Office of Economic Opportunity (SC OEO) will be conducting a public hearing virtually at 10 a.m., Thursday, August 15, 2024, to formally review the proposed 2025 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) State Plan.

To attend the virtual legislative hearing, go to the following address at the date and time indicated above: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OWJmMTIkYWMtNjA3Yy00ZWMwLWI2NzItNTFhYTgwMDMzMdVl%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e9f8d014-80d8-4f27-b0d6-c3d6c085fcdd%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22bb882b44-7784-4544-9909-a4df21abe568%22%7d using Meeting ID: 241 113 033 160. If you do not have internet access, you may attend by dialing 1-803-454-9963 using Access Code: 331 342 706#.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services, Division of Energy Assistance administers LIHEAP. Federal governing regulations for LIHEAP are P.L. 109-58 which reauthorized LIHEAP through FY 2007. The LIHEAP statute is codified in the United States Code at 42 U.S.C. § 8621-8630 (2008). Reauthorization of LIHEAP is currently pending.

LIHEAP provides federally funded assistance to reduce the costs associated with home energy bills, energy crises, weatherization, and minor energy-related home repairs. The LIHEAP State Plan outlines eligibility requirements, household benefit levels and the projected funds for LIHEAP assistance.

The proposed LIHEAP 2025 State Plan is available and may be reviewed at <https://oeo.sc.gov/managesites/prd/oeo/index.html>. A copy of the plan may be requested from the local Community Action agency in your area.

Prior to the virtual hearing, participants requesting to make public comment during the virtual meeting must call (803-734-0662) and leave their name and telephone number no later than 3 p.m., August 14, 2024. Each speaker will be allowed up to three minutes for comments. Written comments regarding the 2025 proposed LIHEAP State Plan may be mailed to the Office of Economic Opportunity at 1205 Pendleton Street, Suite 364 Columbia, SC 29201, or emailed to oeo@admin.sc.gov. All timely written comments submitted by mail or email will be included as part of the official record for this hearing and considered by SC OEO.

For more information, contact the South Carolina Office of Economic Opportunity (803-734-0662).

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