

State of Vermont

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Agency of Administration

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January 30, 2014

The Honorable Senator Jane Kitchel, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
State House
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Senator Kitchel:

I am writing to inform you that Vermont is expected to receive an additional \$2,000,000 in LIHEAP funding in fiscal year (FY) 2014 as an increase to our base block grant. I respectfully recommend that the funds be used in the following manner:

1. Contribute \$500,000 to the WARMTH crisis program. This will fiscally strengthen this safety net program and offset the additional demand created by this cold winter. In addition, these funds will ease a difficult transition year for our clients moving from a maximum of three crisis grants to one.
2. Carry forward \$1,500,000 in reserves for FY 2015 to assist with federal reductions to LIHEAP. This will allow us to begin to address the LIHEAP funding issues in FY 2015.

I appreciate your consideration of my recommendations and look forward to working with you on this issue.

Sincerely,



Jim Reardon
Commissioner

cc: Rep. Martha Heath, Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Rep. Janet Ancel, Chair, House Ways and Means Committee
Rep. Shap Smith, Speaker, House of Representatives
Rep. Ann Pugh, Chair, House Human Services Committee
Senator Tim Ashe, Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Senator John Campbell, President Pro Tem, Senate
Senator Claire Ayer, Chair, Senate Health and Welfare Committee
Steve Klein, Joint Fiscal Office
Jeb Spaulding, Secretary, Agency of Administration

