



National
Consumer Law
Center

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Submitted via email to: infocollection@acf.hhs.gov

June 4, 2026

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Community Services

Re: Comments of the National Consumer Law Center on the Proposed Information Collection Activity; Annual Report on Households Assisted by the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

These comments are in response to the Federal Register Notice, Vol. 91, No. 68 (April 9, 2026) 17972-17973 regarding the proposed information collection activity for the Annual Report on Households Assisted by the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Since 1969, the nonprofit [National Consumer Law Center® \(NCLC®\)](#) has worked for consumer justice and economic security for low-income and other disadvantaged people in the U.S. through its expertise in policy analysis and advocacy, publications, litigation, expert witness services, and training. NCLC has advocated for a strong LIHEAP program since the program was founded and works on state and utility affordability programs that leverage the LIHEAP funds to help keep low-income households connected to essential utility service.

NCLC, in its advocacy for the effectiveness of LIHEAP and other energy support programs, relies on full and accurate data on the households benefiting from the receipt of LIHEAP. The data on sex, race and ethnicity is necessary for the proper performance of the LIHEAP program as it can illuminate opportunities for states and subgrantees to develop effective education and outreach materials and better target outreach efforts to reach underserved populations with high energy burdens.

We support NEADA's June 2, 2026 recommendations and in particular we urge HHS to retain the following data:

Section VI. Number of Assisted Household Applicants by Race and Ethnicity

Section VII. Number of Assisted Household Applicants by Sex

Section VIII. Number of Assisted Household Members by Race and Ethnicity

Section IX. Number of Assisted Household Members by Sex

We also request that OCS make the FY 2023-2025 data on sex, race and ethnicity public on the LIHEAP Data Warehouse. This information is vital for researchers, analysts and policy advocates to have a more complete picture of the LIHEAP beneficiary population. It is also information that has been requested by LIHEAP stakeholders.

We note that the elimination of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) reporting will go a long way in achieving the streamlining of the grantee reporting requirements.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/Olivia Wein

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