United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 23, 2025

The Honorable John Kennedy Chair, Subcommittee on Energy And Water Development Committee on Appropriations Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Patty Murray Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Committee on Appropriations Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Kennedy and Ranking Member Murray:

We write to urge your continued support for two key energy efficiency and clean energy programs within the Department of Energy, the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and the State Energy Program (SEP). These programs provide the foundation for energy efficiency and clean energy investments that create jobs, increase American competitiveness, save households and businesses money, and reduce pollution. As such, we respectfully request that you include \$375 million for WAP, \$15 million for Training & Technical Assistance, \$52 million for the Weatherization Readiness Fund, and \$90 million for SEP.

The Weatherization Assistance Program helps low-income families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities make lasting energy efficiency improvements to their homes. The reduced energy costs free up limited financial resources for essentials such as food and medicine. Throughout the history of the program, WAP has helped more than 7.4 million low-income households reduce their energy bills and saved each household an average of \$372 in annual energy costs. At a time where energy costs are skyrocketing across the country, it is more important than ever to make energy efficiency investments that will help Americans for the long-term.

WAP's benefits extend beyond cost savings. A Department of Energy study found that in one year it reduced carbon emissions by more 2.2 million metric tons – the equivalent to taking more than half a million cars off the road. A study by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) found that children in weatherized households miss less school, improving educational outcomes. Adults miss less work, increasing both their own incomes and their contributions to economic growth. Families also experience fewer asthma symptoms and emergency room visits, decreasing out-of-pocket medical expenses. WAP also leverages additional non-federal funds, while supporting over 8,500 jobs and increasing national economic output by \$1.2 billion.

The State Energy Program provides technical expertise and funding to states to improve their energy security, increase their energy efficiency, and to boost economic growth. SEP combines the scientific and economic knowledge of the Department of Energy with locally led planning to improve the energy efficiency of hospitals and schools, support clean energy projects, and boost private sector energy innovation. A study by ORNL shows that every federal dollar invested in SEP leverages over \$10 for energy-related economic development and

produces over \$7 in energy savings. The same study estimates that businesses reinvesting these energy savings into job-creating opportunities leads to thousands of jobs created per year.

We appreciate your efforts to prioritize programs, like WAP and SEP, that reduce costs for American households and businesses, create greater economic competitiveness for our nation, and reduce pollution. We urge you to continue your strong support for these programs.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and we look forward to continuing to work with you to support these programs.

Sincerely,

Ja¢k Reed

United States Senator

Elissa Slotkin

United States Senator

Maria Cantwell

United States Senator

Tammy Baldwin

United States Senator

Sheldon Whitehouse United States Senator United States Senator

Angus S. King, Jr. United States Senator

Christopher S. Murphy

United States Senator

John Hickenlooper

United States Senator

Jacky Rosen

U.S. Senator

Peter Welch

United States Senator

Ben Ray Lujan

United States Senator

Lisa Blunt Rochester United States Senator

Elizabeth Warren United States Senator

Mazie K. Hirono United States Senator

Edward J. Markey United States Senator

Amy Klobuchar United States Senator Tina Smith

United States Senator

Jeffrey A. Merkley United States Senator

Kirsten Gillibrand United States Senator

Cory A. Booker United States Senator

Catherine Cortez Masto United States Senator

Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

Andy Kim

United States Senator

Richard J. Durbin United States Senator

Mark R. Warner United States Senator

Ruben Gallego United States Senator

Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator

Mark Kelly

United States Senator

Brian Schatz

United States Senator

Jeanne Shaheen

Jeanne Shaheen United States Senator

Chris Van Hollen United States Senator

Bernard Sanders United States Senator

Ron Wyden
United States Senator

Gary Oreters

United States Senator

Tammy Duckworth United States Senator