

Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearings on the Draft 2023 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) State Plan

In accordance with the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services' requirement for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Texas Government Code, Chapter 2105, Subchapter B, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) is opening a public comment period and conducting four public hearings to solicit comments on the Draft 2023 LIHEAP State Plan.

The LIHEAP Draft Plan describes the proposed use and distribution of LIHEAP funds for Program Year (January through December) 2023. LIHEAP provides funding for the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).

The LIHEAP Draft Plan was presented and approved by the TDHCA Board of Directors on April 14, 2022. As part of the public information, consultation, and public hearing requirements for LIHEAP, the Community Affairs Division of TDHCA has posted the proposed Plan on the TDHCA website.

Please visit the TDHCA Public Comment Center at <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/public-comment.htm> to access the Plan.

The documents also may be obtained by contacting Rita Gonzales-Garza at rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us or by phone at (512) 475-3905.

Public hearings for the LIHEAP Draft Plan will be held as follows:

- Monday, May 9, 2022 from 2:30-3:00 p.m. at the Commo Community Center, 4660 Horne St., Fort Worth, TX 76107
- Tuesday, May 10, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at 1415 East 2nd, Odessa, TX 79761
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022 from 1:30-2:00 p.m. at BakerRipley, 3838 Aberdeen Way, 1st Floor Education Center Room, Houston, TX 77025
- Thursday, May 12, 2022, from 5:30-6:00 p.m. in the Thomas Jefferson Rusk Building, Room 320, located at 208 East 10th Street, Austin, TX 78701

At each of the hearings, the LIHEAP Draft Plan will be presented for public comment. Persons may provide comment on the Plan either through oral testimony or written testimony. A representative from TDHCA will be present at the hearing to explain the planning process and receive comments from interested citizens and affected groups regarding the Plan.

The public comment period to accept comments regarding the LIHEAP Draft Plan will be open from Friday, April 29, 2022 through Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Austin local time. Written comments concerning the Plan may also be submitted to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Attn: Gavin Reid, P.O. Box 13941, Austin, TX 78711-3941, or by email to gavin.reid@tdhca.state.tx.us. Comments are due no later than 5:00 p.m. Austin local time, Wednesday,

May 25, 2022. Any questions regarding the public comment process may be directed to Rita Gonzales-Garza, Program Specialist, in the Community Affairs Division at (512) 475-3905 or rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us.

Individuals who require auxiliary aids, services or sign language interpreters for this hearing should contact Rita Gonzales-Garza, at 512-475-3905 at least three days before the hearing so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Non-English speaking individuals who require interpreters for the public hearing should contact Rita Gonzales-Garza at 512-475-3905 or by email at rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us at least three days before the hearing so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Personas que hablan español y requieren un interprete, favor de llamar a Rita Gonzales-Garza al siguiente numero 512-475-3905 o enviarle un correo electronico a rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us por lo menos tres dias antes de la junta para hacer los preparativos apropiados.