

STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF WELFARE & SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 1470 College Parkway

Carson City, NV 89706

(775) 684-0500

RICHARD WHITLEY MS Director

STEVEN H. FISHER Administrator

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE AND AGENDA June 15, 2017

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE (LIHEAP) and NEVADA FUND FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE AND CONSERVATIONSFY 2018 STATE PLANS

The Nevada Division of Welfare & Supportive Services (DWSS) will hold a public hearing in Carson City and Las Vegas on June 15, 2017 via video-conference to obtain comment and input from interested persons on the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) and Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation SFY 2018 State Plans.

Date: June 15, 2017

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: DWSS Central Office 1470 College Parkway Room 149 Carson City, Nevada DWSS Prof. Development Center 701 N. Rancho Drive Training Room 5 Las Vegas, Nevada

AGENDA

*I. Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides federal block grant funds to states that administer a Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). States must submit an application for funds (annual state plan) to DHHS each year. See below for the proposed updates to the State Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018.

The benefit program year begins July 1, 2017. A FY 2018 state plan is necessary to delineate the program benefits, eligibility criteria, available emergency/crisis assistance, and other policy changes occurring in the Energy Assistance Program (EAP), administered by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

FY 2018 federal funding is anticipated to come in lower than FY 2017 per the President's Proposed Budget.

*II. Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation

Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 702, requires the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, and the Department of Business and Industry, Housing Division, to adopt regulations for the administration of energy assistance and weatherization services to low-income Nevadans. See below for the proposed updates to the State Plan for FY 2018.

III. General Public Comments

* Indicates items on which action may be taken at the Public Hearing.

A copy of each State Plan and related documentation are available at DWSS.nv.gov. If you are unable to access these documents Please contact Kim Schlesener at 775 684-0504 or by e-mail at kschlesener@dwss.nv.gov.

Note: Testimony and written materials submitted during the Public Hearing will be considered. Persons wishing to comment on the LIHEAP or Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation State Plans and/or policy changes may appear at the scheduled public hearing or address their comments in writing to:

Administrator Nevada State Division of Welfare and Supportive Services 1470 College Parkway Carson City, NV 89706

Written submissions should be received by June 1, 2017 to be given adequate time for copying and consideration at the Public Hearing. Persons wishing to comment may also appear at the Public Hearing on June 15, 2017.

A copy of this notice and the state plan/regulations/policy changes are available at the following locations for inspection and copying:

DWSS Central Office	1470 College Parkway	Carson City	89706
Las Vegas Belrose DWSS Office	700 Belrose St.	Las Vegas	89158
Reno DWSS Office	4055 S. Virginia	Reno	89502
Elko DWSS Office	1020 Ruby Vista Dr. #101	Elko	89801

MAILING DATE:

May 10, 2017

PUBLIC HEARING POSTING LOCATIONS:

Health Division	4150 Technology Way	Carson City
DWSS PDC	701 N. Rancho Drive	Las Vegas
DWSS Central Office	1470 College Parkway	Carson City
Elko DWSS Office	1020 Ruby Vista Drive, #101	Elko
Reno DWSS Office	4055 S. Virginia St.	Reno
Las Vegas Flamingo DWSS Office	3330 E. Flamingo, Suite 55	Las Vegas
Las Vegas Belrose DWSS Office	700 Belrose St.	Las Vegas

In addition, this notice is posted on the Division's web site at http://dwss.nv.gov/.

*****IMPORTANT NOTICE*****

Mailing a copy of the DWSS public hearing agenda to any person who has requested one will not be continued unless a request for reinstatement on the mailing list is made every six months. NRS 241.020.

Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify Kim Schlesener at the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, 1470 College Parkway, Carson City, Nevada, 89706 or by calling (775) 684-0504 no later than five (5) working days before the public hearing.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE (LIHEAP) SFY 2018 STATE PLAN

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADOPTION June 15, 2017

NEED AND PURPOSE OF PROPOSED STATE PLAN:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides federal block grant funds to states that administer a Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). States must submit an application for funds (annual state plan) to DHHS each year. See below for the proposed updates to the State Plan for FY 2018.

The benefit program year begins July 1, 2017. A FY 2018 state plan is necessary to delineate the program benefits, eligibility criteria, available emergency/crisis assistance, and other policy changes occurring in the Energy Assistance Program (EAP), administered by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

FY 2018 federal funding is anticipated to come in lower than FY 2017 per the President's Proposed Budget.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2017.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Energy Assistance Program is solely funded by the federal LIHEAP block grant and the Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation.

IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

There is no financial impact upon local government.

PROPOSED UPDATE FOR FY 2018 STATE PLAN:

A LIHEAP State Plan draft and the Program Integrity draft with the proposed updates will be available for review on the Division's website at <u>http://dwss.nv.gov</u> no later than five days before the Public Hearing. The following is a summary of the proposed updates:

The program year and other relevant dates will be updated throughout the document. Clarification of language throughout the document is proposed to be updated.

The Housing Division has no significant proposed program changes for FY 2018. The Energy Assistance Program has no significant proposed program changes for FY 2018.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS NEVADA FUND FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE AND CONSERVATION FY 2018 STATE PLAN

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADOPTION June 15, 2017

NEED AND PURPOSE OF PROPOSED STATE PLAN:

Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 702, requires the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, and the Department of Business and Industry, Housing Division, to adopt regulations for the administration of energy assistance and weatherization services to low-income Nevadans. See below for the proposed updates to the State Plan for FY 2018.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2017

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 702, creates the Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation, which is funded by universal energy charge (UEC) monies. The UEC is collected from retail customers of electricity and natural gas by the utility. The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) estimates \$12.8 million in UEC revenues for SFY18. Up to 3% of UEC monies may be retained by the PUCN for administration costs; the remainder is distributed to the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (75%) and the Housing Division (25%). The fund supports the Energy Assistance Program, administered by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services and the Weatherization Assistance Program, administered by the Housing Division.

IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

There is no financial impact upon local government.

PROPOSED UPDATE FY 2018 STATE PLAN:

A Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation State Plan draft with the proposed updates will be available for review on the Division's website at <u>http://dwss.nv.gov</u> no later than five days before the Public Hearing. The following is a summary of the proposed updates:

The program year and other relevant dates will be updated throughout the document. Clarification of language throughout the document is proposed to be updated.

The Weatherization Assistance Program has no significant proposed program changes for FY 2018.

The Energy Assistance Program has no significant proposed program changes for FY 2018.