

**NEVADA STATE DIVISION OF WELFARE & SUPPORTIVE SERVICES  
PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE  
(LIHEAP) AND NEVADA FUND FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE AND  
CONSERVATION SFY 2016 STATE PLANS AND POLICY MANUAL  
AMENDMENTS**

The public hearing 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 2016 State Plans and Policy Manual Amendments was brought to order by Steve Fisher, Administrator of the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2015. This meeting was video-conferenced between the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Professional Development Center, 701 N. Rancho Drive, Training Room 5, Las Vegas, Nevada and Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Central Office, 1470 College Parkway, Room 149, Carson City, Nevada.

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Steve H. Fisher, Administrator  
Miki Allard, Staff Specialist  
Maria Wortman-Meshberger, Program Specialist, Employment and Support Services  
Lori Wilson, Chief, Employment and Support Services  
Jessica Cutts, Program Officer I, DWSS Energy Assistance Program  
Patrick Conway, Grants and Project Analyst, Nevada Housing Division

**STAFF PRESENT IN THE SOUTH**

Judy Temple, Program Officer I, DWSS Energy Assistance Program

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

**North**

There were no guests present in the north

**South**

There were no guests present in the south.

**Mr. Fisher** opened the public hearing at 10:30 a.m. and explained how the hearing will proceed. He explained this public hearing was noticed in accordance with the Open Meeting Law and posted on the Division’s web-site. He asked everyone to please sign in and include e-mail addresses to be included on the Division’s mailing list.

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

**Lori Wilson** presented the following:

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 2016.

The Division proposes:

- to update the program year and other relevant dates; and
- make some grammatical and format corrections as noted on the published draft.

No significant program changes for the SFY2016 LIHEAP State Plan are proposed.

**Patrick Conway** presented the Housing Division's proposed changes for the Weatherization Program:

- Under the section regarding DOE rules additional language was added that clarified the LIHEAP funding is at or below 150% of the federal poverty level whereas DOE funding is at or below 200% of the federal poverty level; and
- Redundant language regarding households with a weatherization related health and safety hazard was removed.

**Mr. Fisher** asked if there was any public comment in the south.

There were no comments

**Mr. Fisher** asked if there was any public comment in the north.

Hearing no additional comments, **Mr. Fisher** adopted the regulations and plan changes on behalf of the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, effective July 1 2015.

## **\*II. Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation**

**Lori Wilson** presented as follows:

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 2016.

The Division proposes to:

- Update the program year and other relevant dates;
- Make some grammatical and format corrections as noted on the published draft;
- Include the latest PUCN estimates for UEC revenue which is projected to generate \$12.8 million for SFY2016; and
- Update the plan with the latest figures for the Nevada median Income to \$55,461 and the Energy Burden to 2.59%.

There are no significant Energy Assistance Program changes for the SFY2016 UEC State Plan proposed.

**Patrick Conway** presented the Housing Division's proposed changes for the Weatherization Program;

- Housing is proposing an increase to the average per household expenditure by the program Subgrantee from \$4,500 to \$6,000.

**Mr. Fisher** asked if there was any public comment in the south.

There were no comments.

**Mr. Fisher** asked if there was any public comment in the north.

There were no comments.

**Mr. Fisher** asked if there were any additional comments from the north or south.

Hearing no additional comments, **Mr. Fisher** adopted the regulations and plan changes on behalf of the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, effective upon federal approval of the state plan.

**\*III GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Mr. Fisher** asked if there were any other comments in the north or south on items not on the agenda for this hearing.

There were no comments.

**Mr. Fisher** thanked those in attendance for their participation in this public hearing. He closed the public hearing at 10:35 a.m.