

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 30, 1999

The Speaker of the

House of Representatives

Sir:

In accordance with provisions of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1999, as included in Public Law 105-277, I hereby request and make available appropriations of \$20,298,765 in budget authority for the Department of Health and Human Services' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. These funds will enable the Department to support the needs of North Carolina in the wake of Hurricane Floyd.

I designate the \$20,298,765 made available today as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of William J. Clinton in black ink.

Enclosure



THE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

September 30, 1999

The President

The White House

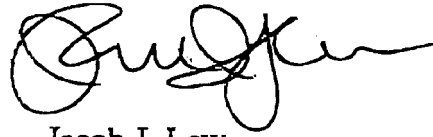
Submitted for your consideration is a request to make available emergency appropriations for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Your approval of this request would make available previously appropriated funds to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to address the needs of North Carolina in the wake of Hurricane Floyd. The \$20.3 million now requested would help low-income households in North Carolina cover the cost of such energy-related repairs as utility reconnections, repair of damaged circuit boxes and furnaces, and replacement of damaged insulation.

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1999, as included in Public Law 105-277, provided \$300.0 million for LIHEAP contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement. On July 12th and August 3rd, you released a total of \$155.0 million to provide support to 25 States and the District of Columbia suffering from particularly severe heat.

I recommend that you designate this request for \$20.3 million as an emergency funding requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. No further congressional action will be required.

I have carefully reviewed this proposal and am satisfied that it is necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Secretary of Health and Human Services in recommending that you make the requested funds available by signing the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob J. Lew". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping tail.

Jacob J. Lew
Director

Enclosure

**EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS: AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED
MADE AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Low income home energy assistance program..... \$20,298,765

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1999, as included in Public Law 105-277, provided \$300,000,000 for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement.

On July 12, 1999, \$100,000,000 was released to support the needs in 16 States and the District of Columbia that were suffering from extremely hot weather conditions. On August 3, 1999, \$55,000,000 was released to support the needs of an additional nine States suffering from extreme hot weather. At this time, \$20,298,765 of the remaining \$145,000,000 in contingent emergency funding is required to support needs arising from Hurricane Floyd in North Carolina. The funds made available will help low-income households in North Carolina cover the cost of such energy-related repairs as utility reconnections, repair of damaged circuit boxes and furnaces, and replacement of damaged insulation.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Vice President

For Immediate Release
Thursday, September 30, 1999

Contact: (202) 456-7035

**VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE ANNOUNCES THE RELEASE OF
EMERGENCY FUNDS TO NORTH CAROLINA FAMILIES**

Washington, D.C. -- Vice President Al Gore today announces the release of \$20.3 million in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Emergency funds to North Carolina to help working families and communities recover from the devastating floods that ravaged the state this month.

These catastrophic floods placed great strain on the families of North Carolina and destroyed much of the vital infrastructure that communities depend on. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides vital assistance to families in low-income areas that face difficult economic situations as they struggle to rebuild their lives.

LIHEAP funds can be used for utility reconnection costs, repair or replacement of circuit boxes, furnaces and air conditioners, removal and replacement of soggy insulation as well as paying energy costs this winter.

"My thoughts and prayers are with the families of North Carolina during these difficult and trying times, said Vice President Al Gore. "We need to make sure every family that lost their home knows that the federal government is working to help them get back on their feet. I know that the families of North Carolina are in good hands with Governor Hunt, who is working tirelessly on their behalf."