



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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January 9, 2019

Writer's direct dial: 512-936-7828
Email: gavin.reid@tdhca.state.tx.us

Lauren Christopher
Director, Division of Energy Assistance
Office of Community Services
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Mary E Switzer Building, 5th Floor
330 C Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20201
Sent via Email: lauren.christopher@acf.hhs.gov

RE: 2019 LIHEAP PLAN AMENDMENT

Dear Ms. Christopher:

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (the "Department") is submitting this letter as notification of an amendment to its Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Model Plan (the "Plan") for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019. Specifically, the Department is revising Section 17.4 of the State Plan, regarding Citizenship/Legal Residency Verification. That section asks "What are your procedures for ensuring that household members are U.S. citizens for aliens who are qualified to receive LIHEAP benefits?" The Department had originally placed an "X" in the box for "Clients sign an attestation of citizenship or legal residency." The Department is amending its Plan by unchecking that box based on recent discussions with federal staff.

At the time the Plan was created and approved by the Department's Governing Board in July 2018, the Department was awaiting a response from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to its March 9, 2018, letter responding to the LIHEAP Compliance Review Letter of January 2018. In subsequent conversations with HHS staff, it is clear that attestation or self certification does not limit the risk of disallowed costs at the state level. Consequently, the Department is submitting this amendment to the Plan as described above.



2019 LIHEAP PLAN AMENDMENT

January 9, 2018

Page 2

Thank you for your assistance in this processing of this amendment request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 512-475-2125.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael De Young". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael De Young
Director of Community Affairs

MDY/gr

cc: Brooke Boston, TDHCA