

NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
40 NORTH PEARL STREET, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12243-0001

BRIAN J. WING
Acting Commissioner

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LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM

DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)

Transmittal No: 97 LCM-33

Date: April 25, 1997

Division: Temporary Assistance

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: HEAP 1997-98 Public Needs Assessment Hearings

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment A - Notice of Public Hearings - available on-line
Attachment B - Registration Form - available on-line

The New York State Department of Social Services will be conducting two needs assessment public hearings on the proposed New York State Plan for the 1997-98 Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP).

The hearings will be held on the dates and locations listed below:

New York City - Wednesday, May 21, 1997 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., 80 Maiden Lane, 6th Floor Conference Room.

Albany - Wednesday, May 28, 1997 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., 40 North Pearl Street, 7th Floor Conference Room.

If you or a member of your staff are interested in testifying, please refer to the enclosed notice and registration form for details.

Written comments are also encouraged. Three copies of your written comments should be sent to:

Steve Ptak
New York State Department of Social Services
40 North Pearl Street
Albany, New York 12243

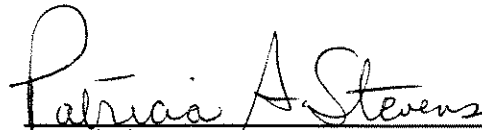
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Written comments must be submitted by **June 4, 1997**.

If you have any questions about the hearings please call
Charles Giambalvo at (518) 486-6362.



Patricia A. Stevens
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Temporary Assistance

**NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
PUBLIC NOTICE
1997-98 HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

In accordance with the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, as amended, the State of New York provides for public input on the development of the 1997-98 New York State Plan for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The 1997-98 program will operate from October 1, 1997 through September 30, 1998.

PUBLIC HEARING: Public hearings will be conducted at the following locations:

- o **New York City**, Wednesday, May 21, 1997 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., 80 Maiden lane, 6th Floor Conference Room, New York, New York 10038.
- o **Albany**, Wednesday, May 28, 1997 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., 40 N. Pearl Street, 7th Floor Conference Room, Albany, New York 12243.

Comments and suggestions regarding the design of 1997-98 HEAP are requested in the following areas:

- o options for a program with substantially reduced levels of federal funding;
- o targeting low-income households most in need of heating assistance;
- o income eligibility guidelines;
- o benefit levels.

Individuals/organizations wishing to present their views at these hearings should register by calling 518-473-0332. Persons who have pre-registered will be called upon first to speak, others will be called in the order which they register.

Speakers must limit their testimony to five minutes and submit three copies of their statements.

WRITTEN COMMENTS:

Written comments on the development of the 1997-98 New York Home Energy Assistance Program Plan will be accepted no later than June 4, 1997. Comments should be addressed to:

Steve Ptak
New York State Department of Social Services
Division of Temporary Assistance, Region I
40 North Pearl Street - 7B
Albany, New York 12243

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
PUBLIC HEARING
TO
PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON
NEW YORK STATE'S
PROPOSED 1997-98 HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HEAP) STATE PLAN

New York City, Wednesday, May 21, 1997 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. in the 6th Floor Conference Room, 80 Maiden Lane, New York, New York 10038.

Albany, Wednesday, May 28, 1997 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. in the 7th floor conference room, 40 N. Pearl St., Albany, New York 12243.

Persons wishing to present their views at any of these hearings are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail to:

Mr. Steve Ptak
New York State Department of
Social Services
Division of Temporary Assistance
Region I
40 North Pearl Street
7th Floor, Section B
Albany, New York 12243

Telephone: 1-800-342-8859
Extension 3-0332

To assure your pre-registration, please respond three days prior to the scheduled hearing date, or call the above number if you have any questions.

I plan to attend the public hearing in (please check):

_____ New York City (May 21, 1997)

_____ Albany (May 28, 1997)

I plan to make a public statement at the hearing. I will limit my statement to a maximum of five minutes and I will provide three copies of my prepared statement.

STATEMENTS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO COMMENTS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE PLAN FOR THE 1997-98 HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HEAP) ONLY.

NOTE: There will not be any photocopying facilities available at the hearing.

NAME _____
TELEPHONE _____
TITLE _____
AFFILIATION _____
ADDRESS _____