



# THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

1620 EYE STREET, NORTHWEST  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006  
TELEPHONE (202) 293-7330  
FAX (202) 293-2352  
URL: [www.usmayors.org](http://www.usmayors.org)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The Mayor

**FROM:** Tom Cochran *Tom Cochran*  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Full House to Act on “Energy Efficiency Block Grant”

**DATE:** July 11, 2007

The U. S. House of Representatives will soon begin floor debate – as early as next week – on energy legislation that includes a Conference-supported Energy Efficiency Block Grant program.

**I am writing to urge you to contact your House members to strongly urge them to support this important legislation, which includes this \$10 billion block grant program to help cities, counties and states in their effort to improve energy efficiency and curb greenhouse gas emissions. To facilitate communication with your House delegation, I have provided a sample letter (see below) on the legislation.**

Thanks to the leadership of Representative Albert Wynn (MD) and others, Members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, chaired by John Dingell (MI), voted 33-23 to include this block grant program in the Committee’s energy package. To view the language, please go to -- [http://energycommerce.house.gov/cmte\\_mtgs/FC062707MU/2447\\_001xml.pdf.pdf](http://energycommerce.house.gov/cmte_mtgs/FC062707MU/2447_001xml.pdf.pdf)

Modeled after the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, this initiative allocates formula funds to cities of 50,000 and more, counties of 200,000 and more and all states to serve non-formula cities and counties. Seventy percent of available funds will go to formula cities and counties, with 30 percent of the remaining amount reserved to the states. There is no state and local matching requirement. It provides flexibility to use funds for the development and annual implementation of locally-determined strategies to improve energy efficiency. Initially, the program provides one-time planning grants to local and state governments to assist in the development of energy efficiency and conservation strategies.

This block grant initiative is a top legislative priority in the Mayors’ 10-Point Plan: *Strong Cities, Strong Families for a Strong America*, as set forth by Conference President Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer.

Please email any correspondence to Assistant Executive Directors Debra DeHaney-Howard at [ddehaney@usmayors.org](mailto:ddehaney@usmayors.org) or Judy Sheahan at [jsheahan@usmayors.org](mailto:jsheahan@usmayors.org). or you may call them at 202-293-7330.