

October 2018

REP. KATE HOGAN'S SENIOR NEWS



Happy autumn, friends! It's an especially wonderful time of year to be from our area – the cider is fresh at our local orchards, the leaves are changing color, and Tom Brady is throwing touchdowns. These cherished fall rituals also come with cooler weather. That's why this time of year I like to reach out to the seniors in my district about state programs that can help with heating costs to keep you and your family warm, safe, and healthy this winter.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) – Whether you own or rent a home, LIHEAP helps low-income individuals and seniors pay their heating bills during the winter. Last year, Massachusetts LIHEAP helped over 180,000 households.

You must meet certain income requirements in order to be eligible for fuel assistance, and this year's income requirements will be available later this fall. The Maynard Council on Aging (COA) will coordinate your application and facilitate a preliminary eligibility check, connecting you with the South Middlesex Opportunity Council for heating benefits. Please reach out to the Maynard Council on Aging to set up an appointment to begin the process.

Weatherization: Weatherizing your home can be crucial to keeping the heat in and the cold out. The Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) complements fuel assistance by providing no-cost home energy services. Licensed private sector weatherization contractors provide the work – such as floor, wall, and pipe insulation – with no cost to the resident. You can receive WAP services if you are eligible for LIHEAP or if someone in your household receives SSI or TAFDC. Please call the Massachusetts HEATLINE toll-free at 1-800-632-8175 or reach out to your COA with questions.

MassSave: MassSave offers Massachusetts homeowners and renters energy tips and information about free home energy assessments, energy-saving products, as well as loans, rebates, and other incentives for energy-saving home improvements. Low-income residents may qualify for programs to help manage energy costs. For more information, please visit www.MassSave.com.

The bottom line: if you are concerned about being able to pay your heating bills this winter, please reach out to your Council on Aging or my office to be connected to the state resources that can help.

At the State House this fall, I will continue to work for legislation that supports what makes us proud to call this area home – the beauty of our natural resources, our heritage of family farms, our innovation and rich traditions.

Rep. Hogan's Office Hours

Bolton Office Hours will be held on Wednesday, October 3rd from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Bolton Public Library, 738 Main Street, Bolton

Stow Office Hours will be held on Tuesday, October 23rd from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Randall Public Library, 19 Crescent Street, Stow

All questions, ideas, or concerns are welcome. If you are unable to attend office hours, call the State House at 617-722-2130 to schedule an appointment. Staff is also available at the District Office on all Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Closed Holiday Mondays)

Kate Hogan

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Kate Hogan, State Representative

Proudly represents Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow

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