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May 5, 2021

Hon. Andrew Joyce, Chairman
Legislative Clerk's Office
112 State St., Room 710
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce,

The Department of Social Services respectfully requests legislative approval for the following:

Authorization is requested to contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County to provide Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) outreach and certification services. HEAP is a state-supervised program to assist eligible low-income households in meeting the costs of home energy.

The Local Department of Social Services (LDSS) is designated as the lead local agency to administer outreach, certification and payment services. The LDSS must establish a local certification network, which provides for an alternative non-LDSS site(s) for a reasonable share of outreach and intake for regular and emergency HEAP assistance. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County meets these requirements and also accepts/processes all mail-in applications.

Sincerely,

Michele G. McClave
Commissioner

cc: Dennis Feeny, Majority Leader
Frank Mauriello Minority Leader
Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel
Minority Counsel