

**Lyons Housing Authority**  
Park Place Apartments  
Kingswood Housing  
215 South Bell Ave., Lyons, KS 67554  
(620) 257-5241 / Fax: (620) 257-2605  
exdir@lyonshousingauthority.com

To: House Financial Institutions and Rural Development

From: Kay Winford, Executive Director

Date: March 2, 2021

**RE: Testimony in Support of City Utility Low-Interest Program**

Under the proposed City Utility Low-Interest Loan Program legislation, a city could borrow from the State to cover the extraordinary electric or natural gas costs incurred during the extreme weather crisis event of February 2021 from the State Ideal Funds. The loan would have to be paid back over 10 years with an interest rate that is 2% below the market rate as provide in K.S.A 75-4237. The loan cannot be used to pay for normal budgeted expenses. This would allow the City to spread the costs out over a longer time frame. If federal money becomes available, that money would first have to go towards repaying the loan. It's not a perfect solution but it buys us all time.

We are submitting our testimony on behalf of the Lyons Housing Authority, who will be impacted by this extreme utility costs during the February 2021, right in the middle of winter weather. We currently manage a 4-story public housing building in Lyons, with 86 units, which is heated by a boiler system for our whole building. Our income-based tenants at Kingswood Housing will also feel the impact of this utility costs due to them being solely responsible for their utility billing.

Please feel free to contact us if you should have any further questions.

Sincerely,

  
Kay Winford,  
Executive Director

cc: LHA Board of Commissioners  
City of Lyons City Council  
Chad Buckley, City of Lyons Administrator