



K A N S A S

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Sebelius urges common-sense actions to reduce rising energy bills

In a series of public service announcements, Governor Kathleen Sebelius is calling on Kansans to take action to reduce their fuel bills this winter.

Noting the widespread predictions of sharply rising energy costs, Sebelius said, "I urge everyone to save energy and money with simple steps like turning down the thermostat, sealing cracks around windows and doors, and closing vents in unoccupied rooms."

The public service announcements, which will run on Kansas television and radio stations over next six weeks, emphasize the need for Kansans to act in anticipation of this winter's heating bills.

"Although heating costs will rise this winter," the Governor said, "we can act now to do what we can to keep the expenses down as much as possible. Not only that, but we must also make sure the most needy Kansans have the assistance they need to stay warm."

Ten thousand posters urging conservation will also be distributed across Kansas by a coalition of utility companies that serve the state. As with the radio and television announcements, the posters will direct consumers to www.warmhelp.org, where they can find information on home energy conservation, as well as links to initiatives that will assist those in need.

Warmhelp.org offers energy and cost-saving tips, and is supported by a number of local organizations, including the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, AARP, the state's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and many of the state's energy companies.

Kansas residents can also visit www.warmhelp.org to find ways they can help their neighbors in need this winter.

Some of the tips available on warmhelp.org include:

- Lower your thermostat, particularly at night and when no one is at home.
- Put on extra layers of clothing instead of turning up the thermostat.
- Close vents and doors in unoccupied rooms.
- Check and seal cracks around doors and windows.
- Have your furnace professionally cleaned and inspected. Change furnace filters monthly.

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