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EEAC
Commissioner Judith Judson
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I am Christine McEachern, owner of McEachern Insulation and an active IIC in the Mass Save program. We have been providing weatherization services in Massachusetts for over 2 decades. I am serving my 8th year as an elected Mass Save BPWG Member representing over 85 contractors across the state.

The council has sought input from numerous sources related to the next 3 year plan. From the outside consultants that were hired, to stakeholders across the Commonwealth, who have provided varying opinions and suggestions about the future path the HES program should take. As the boots on the ground for the HES program, we have firsthand knowledge and an intimate understanding of all aspects of the Mass Save Program and its scope of operations. We understand the complexity, the challenges and the benefits that this programs brings.

As contractors, we have had the opportunity to work collaboratively with the PA's and the LV's to make constant and continuous positive changes to the program that benefit ALL stakeholders over the last 8 years. The PA's have worked tirelessly to break down as many barriers as possible in order to service as many customers as possible. The program currently includes and serves low income, moderate income and renters as well primary homeowners.

The PA's and low income program are collaborating as we speak and formulating a plan to serve low income and market rate customers that live in the same building and weatherize every unit at the same time. This will enable an entire building to be treated as a whole and leaves no customer behind.

There is also a new direct weatherization path that Eversource has rolled out to reduce wait times for their customers to get through the program as quickly as possible.

The current HES program has allowed us to service hundreds of thousands of customers across the state. Massive energy savings that has won us the accolades of being named, once again, #1 in Energy Efficiency in the country. The old open market utility funded program that we once participated in did not work. There was no oversight, no quality control, poor work quality, no fixed pricing, price gauging, inadequate licensing and certifications for contractors. There was zero accountability and it was the customers that were negatively impacted.

The PA's have directly told us that the focus in the next three year plan has aggressive savings goals that need to be achieved and that the focus is on weatherization. We have been asked to grow our businesses in the Commonwealth to meet the current demand of our program. This translates into more opportunity for green jobs and more energy savings for our state. The PA's have been working diligently on our behalf to help us grow our businesses and attract new candidates into our industry. Growing our businesses benefits not only the contractors but our suppliers, distributors and manufacturers of materials, equipment and machinery that we use daily. This program is boosting our overall economy.

Lastly, unless you operate in some capacity in the HES program you will never understand or be able to comprehend how much time, energy, passion and commitment has gone into making this program so highly successful. We are grateful to have this program and feel privileged to be part of something that is so noteworthy and has such a positive impact on our state.