



Date Mailed: August 1, 2025
Docket No.: 25-019614
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

This is an important legal document. Please have someone translate the document.

هذه وثيقة قانونية مهمة. يرجى أن يكون هناك شخص ما يترجم المستند.

এটি একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ আইনি ডকুমেন্ট। দয়া করে কেউ দস্তাবেজ অনুবাদ করুন।

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这是一份重要的法律文件。请让别人翻译文件。

Ky është një dokument ligjor i rëndësishëm. Ju lutem, kini dikë ta përktheni dokumentin.

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Docket No.: 25-019614

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Petitioner: [REDACTED]

HEARING DECISION

Following Petitioner's request for a hearing, this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 400.37; 7 CFR 273.15 to 273.18; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and 45 CFR 205.10; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a hearing was held via telephone conference on July 2, 2025. Petitioner appeared and was unrepresented. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Dannial Rogers, Assistance Payments Supervisor (APS).

During the hearing proceeding, the Department's Hearing Summary packet was admitted as Exhibit A, pp. 1-25.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's eligibility for State Emergency Relief (SER)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. On October 1, 2024, Petitioner received SER for assistance with electric. (Exhibit A, p. 1; APS Testimony)
2. On November 15, 2024, Petitioner received SER for assistance with heat. (Exhibit A, p. 1; APS Testimony)
3. On May 14, 2025, Petitioner applied for SER for assistance with heat and electric. (Exhibit A, pp. 11-25)
4. On May 14, 2025, a SER Decision Notice was issued to Petitioner stating the request for SER was denied because she had been previously approved and was no longer eligible for these types of assistance. (Exhibit A, pp. 6-8)
5. On May 14, 2025, Petitioner filed a hearing request, in part contesting the SER denial. (Exhibit A, pp. 3-4)

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), Department of Health and Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Health and Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The SER program is administered by the Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.7001-.7049.

A household may receive one SER payment for heat and one for non-heat electricity, not to exceed the SER cap, for the current fiscal year. ERM 301, May 1, 2025, p. 1.

In this case, Petitioner applied for SER for assistance with heat and electric on May 14, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 11-25). However, on October 1, 2024, Petitioner received SER for assistance with electric and on November 15, 2024, Petitioner received SER for assistance with heat. (Exhibit A, p. 1; APS Testimony). Accordingly, Petitioner had already received one SER payment for heat and one SER payment for non-heat electricity for the current fiscal year. Therefore, the May 14, 2025, SER Decision Notice stating the current request for SER was denied because she had been previously approved and was no longer eligible for these types of assistance was in accordance with Department policy. (Exhibit A, pp. 6-8).

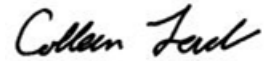
In her testimony, Petitioner raised concerns with how the Department staff responded to her request for an application for SER on May 14, 2025, and raised issues relating to past SER determinations. (Petitioner Testimony). As discussed, there is only jurisdiction to address the eligibility determination for the current SER application. Petitioner also indicated that she just needed to have a current denial for SER to be able to apply for assistance with another agency. (Petitioner Testimony).

Overall, the evidence establishes that the denial of Petitioner's May 14, 2025, application for SER was in accordance with Department policy because Petitioner had already received one SER payment for heat and one SER payment for non-heat electricity for the current fiscal year.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department acted in accordance with Department policy when it determined Petitioner's eligibility for SER.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.



COLLEEN LACK
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

APPEAL RIGHTS: Petitioner may appeal this Hearing Decision to the circuit court. Rules for appeals to the circuit court can be found in the Michigan Court Rules (MCR), including MCR 7.101 to MCR 7.123, available at the Michigan Courts website at courts.michigan.gov. The Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) cannot provide legal advice, but assistance may be available through the State Bar of Michigan at <https://lrs.michbar.org> or Michigan Legal Help at <https://michiganlegalhelp.org>. A copy of the circuit court appeal should be sent to MOAHR. A circuit court appeal may result in a reversal of the Hearing Decision.

Either party who disagrees with this Hearing Decision may also send a written request for a rehearing and/or reconsideration to MOAHR within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision. The request should include Petitioner's name, the docket number from page 1 of this Hearing Decision, an explanation of the specific reasons for the request, and any documents supporting the request. The request should be sent to MOAHR

- by email to MOAHR-BSD-Support@michigan.gov, **OR**
- by fax at (517) 763-0155, **OR**
- by mail addressed to
Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules
Rehearing/Reconsideration Request
P.O. Box 30639
Lansing Michigan 48909-8139

Documents sent via email are not secure and can be faxed or mailed to avoid any potential risks. Requests MOAHR receives more than 30 days from the mailing date of this Hearing Decision may be considered untimely and dismissed.

Via Electronic Mail:

Respondent

LAKE COUNTY DHHS

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BALDWIN, MI 49304

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Via First Class Mail:

Petitioner

