

Dear Member of Congress,

The 108 national groups listed below have come together to support the Working Families Tax Relief Act (H.R. 3157), which would help millions of struggling working families and low-income children by expanding the highly effective Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC) — **and we urge you to cosponsor this important proposal.** Its impact would be very significant: it would help 46 million households with over 100 million people and nearly 50 million children.

The EITC and CTC together reduce child poverty to a greater degree than any other program. In addition, studies show that they encourage work and have important long-term benefits for children, improving their health and school performance, college attendance, and lifetime earnings.

The bill would close two major holes in the EITC and the CTC, ensuring that the federal tax code doesn't continue to tax millions of low-wage working people into (or deeper into) poverty each year nor exclude millions of low-income children from the full Child Tax Credit.

These two serious gaps in the credits deserve very high priority in a tax extenders or other tax package this year:

- Working people not raising children in their home receive little if anything from the EITC. Largely as a result, more than 5 million low-wage working people aged 19-67 who aren't raising children in their home are actually taxed into — or deeper into — poverty by the federal tax code, the sole group in the country for which this is the case. This includes about 1 million Black working people, 1 million Latino working people, 2.5 million women, and 130,000 veterans or active-duty service members.
- The 2017 law's highly touted \$1,000-per-child increase in the CTC was designed in such a way that it largely bypassed 26 million children in low- and moderate-income working families. And many very poor children are shut out of the CTC altogether because their families are too poor to qualify. The CTC now provides \$2,000 per child to help families that make as much as \$400,000 while doing little or nothing for the nation's poorest children.

The bill would close these gaps and make other improvements in these tax credits:

- **Expanding the EITC for working people not raising children:** The bill would significantly boost the currently small EITC for working people not raising children. It also would expand the eligibility age range for this group of working people, from ages 25-64 to ages 19-67. As a result, about 5 million working people would no longer be taxed into, or deeper into, poverty each year.
- **Increasing the EITC for families with children:** The bill would expand the EITC for families with children by roughly 25 percent. It also includes a much-needed expansion in Puerto Rico's small EITC.
- **Improving the Child Tax Credit so it doesn't leave out millions of low-income children.** The bill would also make the CTC fully refundable so that poor and near-poor children can receive the full credit, just as middle-income families and families well up the income scale do. That would lift nearly 2 million children above the

poverty line and another 8 million children closer to the poverty line (using the Supplemental Poverty Measure).

- **Boosting the CTC for young children:** The bill would create a fully refundable, \$1,000-per-child Young Child Tax Credit for children under age 6.

Taking its EITC and CTC expansions together, the Working Families Tax Relief Act would boost the after-tax incomes of an estimated 46 million households, including 9 million Latino families, 8 million Black families, and 2 million Asian American families.

The bill also would benefit about 3 million veteran or active-duty households and 4 million working households where the filer or their spouse has a disability.

Other strong proposals to improve the EITC or the Child Tax Credit have been introduced — reflecting growing appreciation of the importance of these proposals for millions of families and children — and which you may already have cosponsored or wish to consider supporting. What is unique about the Kildee-Evans proposal, however, is that it is the sole proposal that includes improvements in both the EITC and the CTC. As such, we hope you also will support the Working Families Tax Relief Act by co-sponsoring it as well.

Sincerely,

1. 9to5, National Association of Working Women
2. Alliance to End Hunger
3. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
4. American Federation of Teachers
5. American Psychological Association
6. Americans for Democratic Action (ADA)
7. Americans for Tax Fairness
8. Arc of the United States
9. Asset Building Strategies
10. Bread for the World
11. Caring Across Generations
12. Center for American Progress
13. Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
14. Center for Public Justice
15. Center for the Study of Social Policy
16. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
17. Child Care Aware of America
18. Child Welfare League of America
19. Children Defense Fund
20. Children's HealthWatch
21. Christian Community Development Association
22. Christian Reformed Church Office of Social Justice
23. Church World Service
24. Coalition on Human Needs
25. Community Change Action
26. Conference of Superiors of Men (Catholic)

27. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, US Provinces
28. Demand Universal Healthcare - DUH
29. Dominican Sisters of Peace
30. Early Care and Education Consortium
31. Economic Security Project Action
32. Equal Rights Advocates
33. Equal Voice Action
34. Faith in Public Life
35. Family Focused Treatment Association
36. Feeding America
37. First Focus Campaign for Children
38. Food Research and Action Center (FRAC)
39. Forum for Youth Investment
40. Franciscan Action Network
41. Friends Committee on National Legislation
42. Futures Without Violence
43. Generations United
44. Global Justice Institute
45. Hispanic Federation
46. Indivisible
47. Jewish Council for Public Affairs
48. Just Harvest
49. Justice in Aging
50. Latinos for a Secure Retirement
51. Leadership Conference of Women Religious
52. Main Street Alliance
53. MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
54. MomsRising
55. NAACP
56. National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
57. National Alliance of Children Trust & Prevention Funds
58. National Asian Pacific American Women Forum (NAPAWF)
59. National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
60. National Association for the Education of Young Children
61. National Center on Adoption and Permanency
62. National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
63. National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (National CAPACD)
64. National Coalition for the Homeless
65. National Consumer Law Center
66. National Council of Jewish Women
67. National Education Association
68. National Employment Law Project (NELP)
69. National Employment Lawyers Association
70. National Human Services Assembly
71. National Indian Child Welfare Association
72. National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund
73. National Low Income Housing Coalition
74. National Military Family Association
75. National Organization for Women

76. National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV)
77. National WIC Association
78. National Women's Law Center (NWLC)
79. NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
80. Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
81. Opportunity Fund
82. Oxfam America
83. Parents as Teachers National Center
84. Poligon Education Fund
85. Poor Peoples Economic Human Rights Campaign
86. Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
87. Prosperity Now
88. Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order
89. RESULTS
90. Sisters of Charity Federation
91. Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership
92. Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership
93. Sisters of Charity, BVM
94. Sisters of the Holy Cross
95. TASH
96. The Episcopal Church
97. The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
98. Treatment Communities of America
99. Ujima Inc: The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community
100. UnidosUS
101. Union for Reform Judaism
102. Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ)
103. United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries
104. Voices for Progress
105. Women of Color Network, Inc.
106. Woodstock Institute
107. Young Invincibles
108. YWCA USA