



December 3, 2015

Action Alert: Earned Income and Child Tax Credits

Congress will shortly be taking up legislation to extend more than 50 tax breaks, primarily to corporations. National anti-poverty advocates are using this opportunity to promote the renewal of tax credits for low-income families which are set to expire in 2017. If Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) provisions are allowed to expire:

- **16 million people** will be pushed **farther into poverty**.
- Millions of low-income working parents will lose their entire CTC.
 - A single mother with two children, working full-time at the minimum wage, earning \$14,500, will **lose** her entire CTC of **\$1,725**.
- Married couples and larger families will lose part of their EITC.
 - A couple with three children earning \$35,000 will see their EITC **shrink** by roughly **\$1,200**.
- More than **2 million workers** outside metropolitan areas, with **more than 4 million children**, will **lose all or part of their credits**.

We encourage everyone interested to reach out to their Members to express the message below. We have also included a list of all priority members, but ALL Democrats are currently targets. Democrats should be encouraged to refuse to extend corporate tax breaks without doing the same for EITC and CTC.

Topline Message:

Congress has a chance this year to save key provisions of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC), and strengthen the EITC for the lone group of adults taxed into poverty. If these credits expire, some 50 million Americans will lose all or part of their tax credits and fall deeper into poverty. These **pro-work** tax credits help **millions** of hard-working Americans make ends meet, go to work, and provide the basics for their families.

While domestic violence occurs across all socioeconomic groups, women living in poverty experience domestic violence at higher risk and have fewer options for safety. Economic resources are a critical tool for getting and maintaining safety, and these programs are a critical piece of the puzzle helping survivors move from short-term to long-term security. EITC or CTC refunds often provide survivors with the means to leave an abusive partner, help them become self-sufficient after leaving an abuser, and keep families working.

Congress **must** make the key provisions necessary to make these credits permanent, and avoid harming families.

Congressional Targets

First Tier

- Oregon – Wyden
- New York – Schumer
- Massachusetts – Warren
- Nevada – Reid
- Illinois – Durbin

Second Tier

- Finance Committee Democrats
 - Michigan – Stabenow
 - Washington – Cantwell
 - Florida – Nelson
 - New Jersey – Menendez
 - Delaware – Carper
 - Maryland – Cardin
 - Colorado – Bennet
 - Pennsylvania – Casey
 - Virginia – Warner
- Delaware – Coons
- New Mexico – both senators
- Nevada – Heller
- Virginia – Kaine
- Washington – Murray

Third Tier

- ALL Democrats