

April 2, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of Representatives

Dear Leader Thune and Speaker Johnson,

American policy—including American tax policy—should always prioritize strong American families. A strong nation requires strong families, and our national policy should reflect that reality. That is why we are calling on you to strengthen and make permanent the Child Tax Credit (CTC) as part of the new budget reconciliation package.

The inclusion of pro-family provisions is a major reason we as conservative pro-family leaders strongly supported the sweeping tax relief provided in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) signed by President Trump in 2017. While there were many reasons to support the legislation, perhaps the most important was that it prioritized the family by doubling the Child Tax Credit (CTC) from \$1,000 to \$2,000. This sent an important and powerful message that the first Trump administration and Republican majorities in Congress were putting families first, and now it is imperative to do so again.

The current debate on extending the provisions of the TCJA under budget reconciliation instructions is a critical moment for this foundational issue. This process will establish an important marker on tax priorities, and we are eager to support your continued prioritization of the family and therefore the strength of our great nation.

Unfortunately, exploding inflation under the Biden administration has significantly eaten into the value of the TCJA's \$2,000 CTC. In order to maintain its 2017 value, the credit should be increased to at least \$2,500 (we applaud Vice President JD Vance's suggestion of \$5,000) and made permanent. To prevent similar loss of value in the future, it should also be indexed to inflation going forward. There are additional ways to strengthen the credit and we encourage you to consider those as well, but these two changes are necessary simply to maintain the integrity and value of the TCJA's good work on the issue.

It has never been more important for hard-working American families to keep more of their hard-earned money, a fact widely known and supported by the American people. In a recent poll commissioned by The Clapham Group and conducted by Kellyanne Conway Consulting, 66% of Americans support an increase in the CTC like that proposed by Vice President Vance, while only 19% oppose it.¹

The results of the November 2024 election affirm your instinct and your mandate to deliver for American families. As longstanding conservative pro-family leaders, we look forward to supporting and assisting your strong action to strengthen American families and children by strengthening and making permanent the Child Tax Credit.

Sincerely,

Rick Santorum
Former U.S. Senator

Newt Gingrich
Former Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives

Michele Bachmann
Dean of the Robertson School of Government at Regent University

Penny Nance
President and CEO, Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee

Jim Daly
President, Focus on the Family

Robert P. George
McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton University

Eric Metaxas
Host, The Eric Metaxas Show and Socrates in the City

J.C. Watts
Former Republican Conference Chair, U.S. House of Representatives

Brad Wilcox
Senior Fellow, Institute for Family Studies

¹ <https://tinyurl.com/2kuscms4>

Kristan Hawkins
President, Students for Life Action

Gary L. Bauer
President, American Values

Margaret Iuculano
President, Christian Employers Alliance

Patrick T. Brown
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Joel Grewe
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President, American Principles Project

Bishop Garland R. Hunt
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Carlos Campo, Ph.D.
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National Hispanic Pastors Alliance

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Joshua McCabe
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Jamison Coppola
Government Relations Director, American Association of Christian Schools

John Stemberger
President, Liberty Counsel Action

cc: U.S. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Mike Crapo

cc: U.S. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Jason Smith