



National Hispanic Leadership Agenda

October 22, 2019

Dear Member of Congress,

As leaders of civil rights and advocacy organizations that work to empower our country's 60 million Latinos, we are united in our support for the Working Families Tax Relief Act (S. 1138/H.R. 3157), which would help millions of struggling working families and low-income children by closing the holes in the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC) left by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA). **We urge you to cosponsor this important legislation.**

The Working Families Tax Relief Act would provide a much-needed income boost for 46 million households, including 9 million Latinos. In another measurement, the legislation would benefit 42 million children, which includes 12 million Latinos. The EITC and CTC together reduce child poverty to a greater degree than any other government program. Studies also show that the tax credits encourage work and promote long-term benefits for young people, including better health and school performance, college attendance, and lifetime earnings.

The legislation would close two major holes in the EITC and the CTC that would help establish a more just tax code. First, it would provide fairness for childless workers who receive very little, if anything, from the EITC. Currently, there are more than 5 million working people aged 19-67, including 1 million Latinos, who are taxed into — or deeper into — poverty simply because they are not raising children.

Second, for parents and guardians who do decide to raise children, the legislation would provide a fully refundable child tax credit. Unfortunately, the 2017 TCJA's \$1,000-per-child increase in the CTC currently bypasses 26 million children living in low- and moderate-income households, shutting out many of our most economically disadvantaged ones whose families are too poor to qualify. **Fixing this CTC hole would lift nearly 2 million children above the poverty line.**

Given the critical benefits that would be provided for working families across the country, we strongly believe that that closing the EITC and CTC holes deserve the utmost consideration in any tax extenders or technical corrections legislation that gains traction in this Congress. Respectfully, we urge you to support this critical legislation by becoming a cosponsor.

Sincerely,

Eric Rodriguez
UnidosUS, Senior Vice President, Policy and Advocacy
NHLA Economic Empowerment and Labor Co-Chair

Bruce Goldstein
Farmworker Justice, President
NHLA Economic Empowerment and Labor Co-Chair

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- Alianza Americas
- American G.I. Forum
- ASPIRA Association
- Avance Inc.
- Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network
- Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute
- Farmworker Justice
- Green Latinos
- Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities
- Hispanic Federation
- Hispanic National Bar Association
- Hispanics in Philanthropy
- Inter-University Program for Latino Research
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
- LatinoJustice PRLDEF
- League of United Latin American Citizens
- MANA, A National Latina Organization
- Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
- Mi Familia Vota
- NALEO Education Fund
- National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives
- National Association of Hispanic Publications
- National Association of Latino Arts and Culture
- National Association of Latino Independent Producers
- National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.
- National Day Laborer Organizing Network
- National Hispana Leadership Institute
- National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators
- National Hispanic Council on Aging
- National Hispanic Environmental Council
- National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts
- National Hispanic Media Coalition
- National Hispanic Medical Association
- National Institute for Latino Policy
- National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
- National Latina/o Psychological Association
- Presente.org
- SER Jobs for Progress National
- Southwest Voter Registration Education Project
- U.S.- Mexico Foundation
- UnidosUS
- United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- United States Hispanic Leadership Institute
- United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce
- Voto Latino