











February 26, 2024

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell:

As national anti-hunger organizations working closely with communities and individuals experiencing hunger, we urge you to join us in the fight against hunger and poverty by passing the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024 by early March, and rejecting any amendments that could weaken or limit the impact of the Child Tax Credit (CTC). Specifically, this would include opposing amendments that would eliminate the "lookback" provision, which provides key flexibility for families with low incomes who might experience fluctuations in earnings due to circumstances such as economic hardship or caregiving needs. Our organizations represent millions of families struggling to put food on the table in every part of the country, and they need relief now.

The CTC improvements in the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act will help the families we serve put food on the table.

Swift passage of this bill, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly with wide bipartisan support, is necessary to ensure that:

- approximately 16 million out of the 19 million children currently left out of the full or any CTC will benefit, and
- an estimated 400,000 children will be lifted above the poverty line.

We know that when families have money in their pockets, they pay for food, housing, child care, and other essential household necessities. Through bipartisan past efforts, we have seen the power of an <u>improved CTC to buoy the food security and food buying power for families with children</u>, especially those with low incomes.

While this act falls somewhat short of all the 2021 improvements that led to a dramatic drop in food insufficiency, it will go a long way in addressing our nation's hunger crisis and represents a critical step to alleviate escalating rates of hunger. We urge you to seize this opportunity for bipartisan action to fight hunger by passing the Tax Relief for American Families Act by early March and rejecting any amendments that could weaken or limit the impact of the CTC.

Signed by:

Bread for the World Feeding America Food Research & Action Center MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger Share Our Strength The Alliance to End Hunger