

## Students for Life Action Alert: Vote in Favor of the Child Tax Credit

January 26, 2024

Dear U.S. House and Senate,

On behalf of our more than 1,400 student groups and almost 200,000 trained activists in all 50 states, I urge you to vote in favor of the *Child Tax Credit*.

Part of *Students for Life Action (SFLAction)'s* Post-Roe Blueprint is expanding the Child Tax Credit (CTC), a program designed to invest in young families, sacrificing to raise the next generation who will be needed by us all. Case in point: the collapsing Social Security program, in which today, 2.7 workers support each retiree, notes the *Wall Street Journal*.

That's only one example.

It is to the benefit of America as a whole, and families in particular, that the Pro-Life Generation calls on Congress to help families in the early days of parenting.

Parents from all walks of life are keenly aware of the financial challenges associated with raising a child. In 2022, the estimated cost of raising a child through the age of 17 was over \$300,000. According to one recent poll, around 37% of parenting-age adults wish they had more children than they do. When *The New York Times* asked parents in 2018 why they are having less children than their ideal number, a majority said childcare was too expensive, with around 44% simply saying they can't afford more children. Inflation has only exacerbated these challenges, leaving many parents in a daunting position, even as they courageously prepare to bring a new child into the world.

Regarding the concerns for the lookback provisions this current package provides, we want to posit two things.

First, this is a continuation of the TCJA provisions that were passed under Trump. And two, it is the lower income families who are served by this provision who are the most negatively affected by income fluctuations and are also the most positively impacted by CTC. Conservatives can and should support this CTC package, lookback provisions included, as this is the way forward to show our pro-life and pro-family values align.

Secondly, the CTC is also a bi-partisan program, supported by that hard-to-reach cohort – the Youth Vote – now about one-third of the electorate. *Students for Life of America's Demetree* 

*Institute for Pro-Life Advancement* recent YouGov poll illustrates the appeal of such a program. More than 6 in 10 supported the CTC as federal policy.

Going forward, *SFLAction* will be considering scoring such measures as CTC, so that we protect life not only in law but in programs – and in the budget. This is very popular with younger voters, who want to see pro-life positions met with pro-life love and support.

Earlier this month <u>over a dozen pro-life and pro-family groups</u> sent a <u>coalition letter</u> to House and Senate leadership urging them to support CTC.

Supporting life means advocating for these mothers and children to have the resources they need to steward it. Americans understand this. That is why for more than five years, there has been broad, bipartisan agreement around expanding the Child Tax Credit (CTC) to provide additional resources to children and families.

<u>Please join SFLAction and the pro-life community nationwide by supporting and voting for the Child Tax Credit.</u>

If you have any questions, please reach out to Savanna Deretich, who is our Government Affairs Coordinator. You may email Savanna Deretich at sderetich@studentsforlifeaction.org

Sincerely,

Kristan Hawkins

President

Students for Life of America and Students for Life Action

Wristing. Hukins