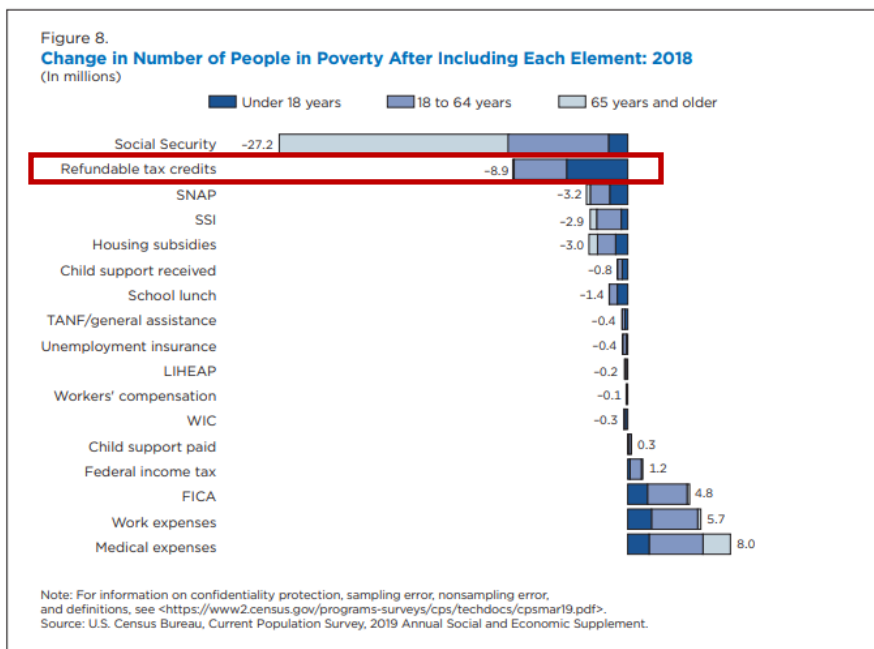


Keep Pushing for EITC and CTC Expansions

RESULTS continues to push Congress to help workers and families in any new tax legislation this fall. New data shows that the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) together [lifted 8.9 million people above the federal poverty line](#) in 2018. Expansion of the EITC could help prevent 5 million workers not raising children in the home from getting taxed into poverty, while expanding the CTC to all low-income families will ensure that America's lowest-income children are covered.

Advocacy on this issue seems to be working. The latest rumors are that if Congress does a tax bill this fall, the likelihood of it including expansions of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) is increasing. But we are not there yet. When we faced a similar situation in 2015, sustained pressure on members of Congress until the very end won us a [victory](#). We need that again.



Participate in National Call-in Effort

On Wednesday, November 6, advocates from around the country called senators to tell them that any tax bill this year must help workers and families by expanding the EITC and CTC. Your calls are still important. Call this toll-free number **(888) 678-9475**, generously provided by MomsRising, and leave this message with the receptionist:

My name is _____ and I am a constituent from _____. I am concerned that Congress may try to pass a tax bill this fall that again ignores low-income workers and families. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) lift more families and children out of poverty than any other program – and we should focus on expanding these credits to help families make ends meet. Will you please tell Senator _____ that any tax package that passes this year must include improvements to the EITC and CTC?

After you call, please forward the action alert to your action networks and others with a quick request for them to call their senators and leave the same message.

Remember that your voice is still needed; workers and families need a break.

Advocacy is not just about making your voice heard on an issue, it's also about maximizing your impact when you do. That goes for the decision-maker as well as you, the advocate.

Being strategic makes an impact on decision-makers

Actions that best influence decision-makers are those that are personal. Generic, formulaic actions (e.g. form e-mails, pre-written letters, petitions) are not enough. Here are "personalized" actions you can take that will make the most difference on expanding the EITC and CTC this year.

Meet with members of Congress. Congress is on recess twice this month (House, November 4-11; both, November 25-29). Schedule meetings and attend town halls to talk to them directly about expanding the EITC and CTC in any new tax bill. Use our [sample request](#) to schedule a meeting today and contact RESULTS staff to help you get ready when your meeting is set. If you can't get a meeting this month, meet with their local staff instead.

Speak/follow up with tax aides. Next to meeting with your members of Congress, working with policy aides in DC is your best way to influence policy. If you have not yet touched base with your Senate and House tax aides, contact them now. Ask if they will speak to their bosses about only supporting a tax bill this fall if it includes expansions of the EITC and CTC. If you've already spoken to the aide, follow-up to what happened when they spoke to their boss. See our [EITC/CTC Lobby Request](#) for details and contact RESULTS staff for coaching.

Generate media on the EITC and CTC. Continue to push our message in the media by [getting letters to the editors](#) and op-eds published about tax policy that helps workers and families. If you do get published, please send copies to the tax aides and take copies to any lobby meetings you have.

Finding meaning is what makes an impact on you

At RESULTS, we don't want you to just take an action for action's sake. We want taking action to be transformative experience, both for you and our issues. Here's how:

Do something new. Good advocacy comes from growth. When you do something new, you are more focused, more challenged, and in the end, more fulfilled. Trying new things or new ways to do old things makes you more effective. In the actions listed above, what have you not done? If you've done all of them, what new, creative action can you take?

Act alongside other people. People are inspired by other people. In working together with others, you feel a richness which you cannot get from acting alone. Not only is your message magnified when more people are doing it, your collaboration sparks new motivations and creativity in each other. Whether its inviting someone to a lobby meeting, doing a group call to an aide, writing an op-ed together, or simply having someone read your letter, find a way to take action with others.

Do something of which you are proud. Doing something new and with other people is likely to create outcomes about which you feel good. But it's more than just a sense of satisfaction. You want to feel like you contributed to something bigger and more meaningful. Choose the action that asks you to overcome something (hesitation, fear, ignorance) - something that makes you feel proud and inspires you to want to do more.