

ACTION SHEET ([Word version](#))

Short-Term: Tell Congress to extend the Child Tax Credit later this year

In 2021, Congress cut child poverty by more than a third by [expanding the Child Tax Credit \(CTC\)](#) to reach the lowest income families. But the Senate subsequently let the expansion expire last December, greatly increasing hardship for millions of families. Later this year, Congress may extend some expiring tax breaks for corporations. Any tax bill must include an expanded CTC. It is unacceptable for Congress to pass tax breaks for big corporations while leaving the lowest-income people behind. Help us build momentum for the CTC so policymakers make it a top priority in any year-end legislation.

Write letters supporting the Child Tax Credit

Write or call senators and representatives, and congressional candidates about the CTC.

1. Start your letter with “Dear Sen. _____” or “Dear Rep. _____”. Introduce yourself with your name, home city, and that you are a RESULTS volunteer.
2. Remind them that many families in your community are struggling to make ends meet, facing higher costs for food, rent, and gas. *If comfortable, share a personal story on how higher costs are impacting you/your family and/or how tax credits would help you.*
3. Say that the expanded Child Tax Credit (CTC) helped strengthen families and reduce child poverty by helping them stay housed, fed, and employed.
4. Mention that the expanded CTC was successful because families with low- or no incomes got the full credit (“full refundability”) and payments were made monthly.
5. Ask them to prioritize expanding the CTC in any tax legislation this year, including families with the lowest incomes and resume the monthly payments. Also, tell them you oppose Congress passing any more tax breaks for large corporations unless they include support for families.
6. Ask them to share that expanding the CTC is a top priority for year-end legislation with House or Senate leadership.
7. Thank them and tell them you look forward to a prompt response to your request. Sign your name with your contact information.

Send the letters your members’ of Congress local office

(<https://results.org/volunteers/legislator-lookup>). Looking for more resources to engage your community and candidates? See [our Fall Campaign page \(https://results.org/fall2022\)](https://results.org/fall2022).

ACTION SHEET

Long-Term: Reform the Tax Code to Reduce Poverty and Help Struggling Renters

We can harness the power of the tax code to address the housing crisis and lift people out of poverty. Federal housing assistance programs remain grossly underfunded and insufficient to prevent homelessness and meet the basic needs of households across the country. A renters' tax credit would cap out-of-pocket rent and utilities expenses, so that low-income families can afford a safe place to live without sacrificing other basic needs.

Write letters supporting a renter's tax credit

Write or call your senators and representatives, and congressional candidates about a renter's tax credit.

1. Start your letter with "Dear Sen. _____" or "Dear Rep. _____". Introduce yourself with your name, home city, and that you are a RESULTS volunteer.
2. Remind them that skyrocketing rents are straining family budgets. *If comfortable, share a personal story on how higher rent costs are impacting you/your family.*
3. Inform them that only one in four eligible households can get federal housing assistance due to chronic underfunding.
4. Explain that the tax code is a powerful tool in reducing poverty and financial insecurity.
5. Remind them the tax code gives hundreds of billions of dollars in subsidies to homeowners, landlords, and developers, but almost nothing to the 44 million Americans who rent.
6. Tell them a refundable renter's tax credit, delivered as a monthly payment, would cap rent and utility costs for low-income renters. This would provide housing stability and reduce homelessness.
7. Urge them to support prioritizing renters by including a renter's tax credit in any upcoming tax reform legislation.
8. Thank them and tell them you look forward to a prompt response to your request. Sign your name with your contact information.

Send the letters your members' of Congress closest local office (<https://results.org/volunteers/legislator-lookup>). Looking for more resources to engage your community and candidates? See [our Fall Campaign page \(https://results.org/fall2022\)](https://results.org/fall2022).