



# Families Deserve More from the Child Tax Credit

## A Statement from the ABC Coalition Steering Committee and Parent & Caregiver Advisory Board

**Washington, DC (July 10, 2025)** – The Automatic Benefit for Children (ABC) Coalition, a parent-led group of national, state, and grassroots organizations working to advance a child allowance, is outraged by the tax and budget bill signed into law by President Trump on July 4. This bill will raise costs for families, taking food assistance and health coverage away from millions of Americans and excluding children from the Child Tax Credit who need the support the most.

The Child Tax Credit (CTC) plays a critical role helping families with the costs of raising children, but it can and should do much more. While the bill increases the CTC to \$2,200 per child, it continues to [leave behind](#) at least 17 million children who will not receive the full credit because their families' earnings are too low. To make matters worse, by requiring that at least one parent have a Social Security Number to claim the CTC on behalf of their children, the bill newly excludes [2.6 million U.S. citizen](#) children from the credit.

Children and families deserve so much more. Instead of denying the CTC to the children and families who need it most, lawmakers should ensure it provides real financial security.

- **The Child Tax Credit (CTC) should be available to all children.** Children in families with low or no income should receive the full credit, and the CTC should be fully available to children in immigrant families.
- **The CTC should be available via monthly payments.** Bills come every month, not once a year, and families need regular support to help with costs of raising children.
- **The CTC should provide meaningful help with the rising costs of raising children.** The CTC should be increased to at least \$500 per month per child, and the maximum benefit adjusted for inflation to keep up with the cost of living.

The CTC provisions in the tax and budget bill are not what families need.

As Huong Vu, an ABC Coalition Parent and Caregiver Advisory Board member from Boston, MA reflected: *"It breaks my heart to see the new bill that harms many children who need support the most. No child in this country should be denied support because of their parents' income or immigration status."*

Carolyn Hill, a Parent and Caregiver Advisory Board member from Philadelphia, PA, shared *"I think this bill is outrageous, and will harm the family, the community, and the children."*

Raegen Selden, a Parent and Caregiver Advisory Board member from Philadelphia, PA shared: *"As an American, I am disappointed, as a human I am disheartened, and as a parent of future generations I am simply afraid."*

Kali Daugherty, a Parent and Caregiver Advisory Board member from Milwaukee, WI shared: *"It's deeply disappointing that a bill was passed without regard for its impact on children. Policies like this punish young people for circumstances beyond their control. Children should never bear the burden of adult decisions. We must do better for their future and ours."*

For more details on how an expanded Child Tax Credit can promote financial security and help families meet the rising costs of raising children, see our [Principles for a Child Allowance](#).

## About the ABC Coalition

The [Automatic Benefit for Children \(ABC\) Coalition](#) is a parent-led group of national, state, and grassroots organizations. Our mission is to create a child allowance that provides regular, meaningful assistance to families, promotes racial equity and justice, enjoys broad public support, and serves as a foundation for a more equitable and inclusive social support system. We see the expansion of a fully inclusive Child Tax Credit as a step toward that goal.

The ABC coalition is led by our **Steering Committee** and its advocacy priorities are shaped by the insights of our **Parent & Caregiver Advisory Board**, a group of parents from across the U.S. who are committed to building a child allowance that meets the needs of families with children.



**Please contact The Center for the Study of Social Policy's (CSSP) Director of Economic Security, Elisa Minoff ([elisa.minoff@cssp.org](mailto:elisa.minoff@cssp.org)) with any questions.**