Dear Friends,

Congress is in the final stages of debating the Build Back Better Act, once-in-a-generation legislation that would transform the U.S. economy to center children and families. For months, FCNL advocates have been lobbying Congress to include key priorities in this bill—and it worked! This bill provides an opportunity to permanently reduce child poverty and invest in children.

The bill has not yet been signed into law, so we must keep up the pressure on our members of Congress until we see this package over the finish line. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC) expansions, two highly effective anti-poverty programs, must be extended. These expansions could cut child poverty in half, lifting 4.1 million children above the poverty line, including 1.2 million Black children and 1.7 million Latino children.

Act now: Urge your member of Congress to extend the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit Expansions using the information on this sheet.

Unless Congress acts, the anti-poverty improvements to these credits will expire at the end of 2021. This change would disproportionately affect the lowest-income recipients; tens of millions of low-income parents would no longer receive the full CTC, and all families would see their CTC reduced.

Please act using the accompanying letter template and call script. Then, contact your lawmakers virtually using this email template and this information. Add 2-4 sentences letting your legislator know why you are personally concerned. Then, call the U.S. Congress at 202-224-3121 to be connected to your representative’s and senators’ offices. Leave a message if they do not pick up or if you are calling after office hours.

Your letters this month will join the 600+ people lobbying in November at the Quaker Public Policy Institute! Your letters, emails, and phone calls to Congress matter now more than ever. We ask Friends to continue contacting elected officials using the materials we provide. Please share this call to action with your community email lists and organize virtual gatherings for collective advocacy. Learn more and get training from FCNL staff at fcnl.org/lobbyfromhome.

In peace,

Emma Hulbert
Program Assistant for Quaker Outreach
ehulbert@fcnl.org

PS. Stay tuned for December’s Quaker Changemaker Event on Dec. 15 at 6:30 p.m. EST. Diane Randall will join Director of Quaker Leadership Alicia McBride in reflecting on her ten years of leadership at FCNL.
Hello, I am calling for [Representative/Senator ________________________]. I am a resident of [state].

I’m calling today about the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit, two of the most important anti-poverty programs in the country. If Congress fails to act, the life-changing improvements to these credits will expire at the end of 2021. This would affect the parents of tens of millions of low-income children who would no longer receive the full Child Tax Credit, and all families would see their Child Tax Credit reduced.

Now, I am urging you support extending the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit expansions.

(My story)

Please support extending the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit expansions. Thank you.

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November 2021

Dear ______________________

Please support extending the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit expansions.

(My story)

I’m writing you today about the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit, two of the most important anti-poverty programs in the country. If Congress fails to act, the life-changing improvements to these credits will expire at the end of 2021. This would affect the parents of tens of millions of low-income children who would no longer receive the full Child Tax Credit, and all families would see their Child Tax Credit reduced.

Now, I am urging you support extending the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit expansions.

Sincerely,

(Name, Physical Address, Phone, Email)