

December 16, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McConnell:

As leaders of faith organizations, social welfare organizations, and others, we consider it to be an integral part of our missions to ensure families and communities have all the resources they need to be fully flourishing and contributing members of society.

There is no argument that the married family is the necessary building block for healthy children, communities, and a free people. However, marriage rates are at an all-time low while fertility rates continue to decline. For too long, we have presumed the family would always be there to strengthen society while spending little effort to support its health. If we do not take concrete steps to strengthen the family, we'll have no chance of addressing the social problems most on Americans' minds—educational failure, poverty, and crime.

That is why there is broad agreement that the Child Tax Credit (CTC) needs to be strengthened. We believe there is an urgent need for legislation that supports children and families. Many of us had called for increasing the CTC to \$3,000 per child when Congress was debating the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 and we remain committed to that goal today. It is our hope that this Congress will prioritize an expanded Child Tax Credit in a year-end tax policy for today's families and future families in development.

Congress must squarely face the increasing cost of parenthood and the declining fertility rates these costs engender. Our goal must be to advance policies that make having children more affordable and achievable. While there are many reforms that would either remove barriers to family formation or help support struggling families, none is more important than increasing the CTC to \$3,000 per child.

Thank you for your consideration of our views and this request.

Sincerely,

Newt Gingrich
Former Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives

Mike Huckabee
Former Governor of Arkansas

Rick Santorum
Former U.S. Senator

Timothy R. Head
Executive Director, Faith & Freedom Coalition

Michele Bachmann
Dean of the Robertson School of Government at Regent University

Mark Rodgers
Principal, The Clapham Group

Tony Perkins
President, Family Research Council

Penny Y. Nance
CEO & President, Concerned Women for America LAC

Terry Schilling
President, American Principles Project

Ryan T. Anderson, Ph.D
President, The Ethics and Public Policy Center

Robert P. George, JD, DPhil, DCL, DLitt
McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton Universities

Brad Wilcox
Future of Freedom Fellow, Institute for Family Studies

Ramesh Ponnuru
American Enterprise Institute

Kristan Hawkins
President, Students for Life Action

Yuval Levin
Director of Social, Cultural and Constitutional Studies
American Enterprise Institute

Walter Kim
President, National Association of Evangelicals

Rusty R. Reno
Editor, First Things

Bishop Dean Nelson
Chairman, Douglass Leadership Institute

Patrick T. Brown
Fellow, The Ethics and Public Policy Center

Nadine Maenza
Senior Advisor, Patriot Voices

Carlos Duran
National Hispanic Pastors Alliance

Kathryn Jean Lopez
National Review Institute

Samuel Rodriguez
National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference

Rev. Dr. David Gray
Senior Fellow, Niskanen Center

Carlos Campo, Ph.D.
President, Ashland University and Theological Seminary

Chris Bullivant
Executive Director, Social Capital Campaign

Michael Hemon
The Messy Family Project