



Hon. Thomas Rivera Schatz  
President

December 10, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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

I write to urge the prioritization of expanding the child tax credit (CTC) to Puerto Rico when considering any forthcoming tax package. The child tax credit helps working families throughout the United States offset the cost of raising children, yet is surprisingly unavailable for U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico until they have their third child. We believe it is important that the U.S. citizens that live in Puerto Rico enjoy this benefit.

The CTC is a vital measure to improve family economic security, reduce child poverty, and contribute to overall economic growth. That is why the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Task Force on Economic Growth in Puerto Rico urged federal policy makers in 2016 to enact changes authorizing otherwise eligible families in Puerto Rico with one child or two children to claim the additional child tax credit. We believe time is past due to enact these changes.

While different proposals exist with respect to structuring a Puerto Rico CTC, we support the established payment process in which working families receive payment directly from the IRS. This method involves the least amount of bureaucratic red tape, providing relief more efficiently to families who need it.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Respectfully,



Thomas Rivera Schatz  
President of the Senate

Cc: The Honorable Richard Neal, Chairman, U.S. House Ways & Means Committee  
The Honorable Kevin Brady, Ranking Member, U.S. House Ways & Means Committee  
The Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance  
The Honorable Ron Wyden, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance  
The Honorable Marco Rubio  
The Honorable Bob Menéndez  
The Honorable Nydia Velázquez  
The Honorable Jenniffer González-Colón



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The Hall of the States Suite 618  
444 North Capitol Street NW  
Washington DC 20001  
(202) 624-7850