



CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS  
*Linda T. Sánchez | Chairwoman*  
114TH CONGRESS

March 15, 2016

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Committee on Ways and Means  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sander Levin  
Committee on Ways and Means  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Brady and Ranking Member Levin:

As members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) executive leadership, we write to express our opposition to H.R. 4722, legislation that would require a Social Security Number to claim the refundable portion of the Child Tax Credit (CTC). Denying the Child Tax Credit to working families who lack a Social Security Number is a misguided policy that will do nothing but push low income U.S. children further into poverty.

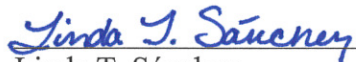
The Child Tax Credit was developed, on a bipartisan basis, to assist low income, working families with the cost of raising children. According to the Internal Revenue Service, over 50 percent of families using the refundable CTC earn less than \$20,000 per year, over 60 percent earn less than \$25,000 per year, and over 75 percent earn less than \$30,000 per year. Nearly a majority of these workers are raising children on hourly wages of \$10 or less and utilize the credit to pay for basic necessities, such as groceries, housing and utility bills.

If H.R. 4722 were enacted, Latino children would be the hardest hit. There are currently more than 15 million children living in poverty. Forty percent of these children are Latino and 4.5 million of them live in mixed status families. Of the five million children who would be affected by this legislation, roughly four million are U.S. citizens and 85% are Latino.

Plunging these children and their families further into poverty is a harmful attack on working families. One of the most shocking indictments is to see children remain in poverty even though their parents are working – often these are parents working more than one job. We saw similar attacks on the Child Tax Credit in 2012 and again in 2014.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus fought against those attacks on mixed status families then, and continues to fight against them now.

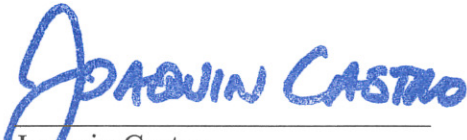
Sincerely,



Linda T. Sánchez

Chair

Congressional Hispanic Caucus



Joaquin Castro

Second Vice Chair

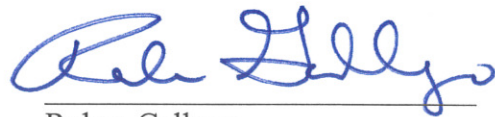
Congressional Hispanic Caucus



Michelle Lujan Grisham

First Vice Chair

Congressional Hispanic Caucus



Ruben Gallego

Whip

Congressional Hispanic Caucus