



May 13, 2025

Chairman Jason Smith
House Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
1139 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith:

The **Adoption Tax Credit Working Group** brings together organizations united in support of the Adoption Tax Credit, which helps parents welcoming children home through adoption into the love, security, and permanency of a family. We write to express our appreciation for your recognition of the importance of restoring refundability to the Adoption Tax Credit.

The Adoption Tax Credit was created in 1996 to help children who need families. Throughout its history this invaluable tool has enjoyed strong bipartisan, bicameral support. In 2010, the Adoption Tax Credit was made fully refundable, allowing families to immediately receive the credit's full value. In 2012, even as Congress made the Adoption Tax Credit permanent, its refundability provision expired.

Today, the Adoption Tax Credit provides families with a \$17,280 credit for qualified adoption expenses against their tax liability. However, not all middle- and lower-income families have a sufficient tax liability to receive the full benefits of the credit.

Restoring refundability will provide an immediate benefit to families as they welcome children into their homes through adoption, especially for families adopting children with medical or other immediate needs. All children deserve to know the love of a permanent family, especially the more than 100,000 children waiting to be adopted in foster care today.

In 2017, the Adoption Tax Credit Working Group was instrumental in helping Congress recognize the importance of the Adoption Tax Credit; as a result, it was preserved during the tax reform effort. Since then, we have worked to support legislation to restore refundability to the Adoption Tax Credit, through the Adoption Tax Credit Refundability Act. We are immensely grateful to the sponsors and cosponsors of this legislation over the years, and we know this moment would not have been possible without their support, leadership, and advocacy.

Today, we write to express our appreciation and support for the Ways and Means Committee's recognition of the importance of restoring refundability for the Adoption Tax Credit. Making the Adoption Tax Credit refundable will help more middle- and lower-income families take advantage of the credit. A refundable credit makes a strong, immediate investment in families opening their hearts and homes through adoption and the many children who will flourish in a loving, secure, and permanent family.

Sincerely,

The Adoption Tax Credit Working Group Executive Committee

Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute – Secretary
Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (AAAA)
Adopt America Network
Christian Alliance for Orphans
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
Families Rising
National Center for Adoption and Permanency
National Council For Adoption (NCFA)
RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association
Show Hope
Voice for Adoption