

Diana Foltz

Family Action Network Parent Advocate

May 14, 2025

Ohio Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee Chairperson Manchester, Vice Chair Brenner, Ranking Member Liston, and Members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee:

My name is Diana Foltz and I am a parent from Fairfield County. I am here today to urge you to restore the Governor's budget proposal, which included critical investments for a child tax credit.

Having a \$1,000 tax credit per child would be a game-changer for my family. As a parent of two young children—ages 2 and 4—I'm always thinking about how I can give them the best possible start in life. This credit would allow me to invest more in their education by purchasing high-quality books and learning materials, enrolling them in enriching activities, and helping them build a strong foundation for the future.

It would also ease the burden of basic needs that every growing child has—like new clothes and shoes, which they seem to outgrow faster than I can keep up. Beyond that, this support would help me cover essential expenses like my heating bill and rent, which can be difficult to manage at times. The Child Tax Credit wouldn't just help us get by—it would give us the breathing room to plan, grow, and thrive.

Groundwork Ohio has outlined key priorities that will strengthen our state's early childhood system, including:

- **Economic Stability:** RESTORE the proposed refundable Child Tax Credit of up to \$1,000 per child under age 7.

These investments will not only help children thrive but also boost Ohio's workforce and economy. I urge you to fully fund these initiatives to ensure every child gets the best start in life. Thank you for your time and commitment to Ohio's children and families. I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Diana Foltz