

Tiara Anderson

Family Action Network Parent Advocate

May 14th, 2025

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

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

I work hard and earn a modest income, yet I constantly find myself excluded from the very resources meant to support families. I make "too much" to qualify for assistance—but not enough to truly make ends meet.

Like many Ohio families, I face daily choices no parent should have to make: child care or rent, groceries or medical care. These struggles are far too common and often overlooked in policy discussions.

That's why I started Creative Charisma Charities—to support families like mine who are caught in the middle. We offer financial literacy, peer support, and practical tools to help parents build lasting stability.

But we can't do it alone. Ohio needs flexible, realistic policies that reflect what families are facing. Working hard shouldn't mean falling behind. Please ensure that all families—not just those who fit into rigid income brackets—have a fair chance at success.

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,

Tiara Anderson