

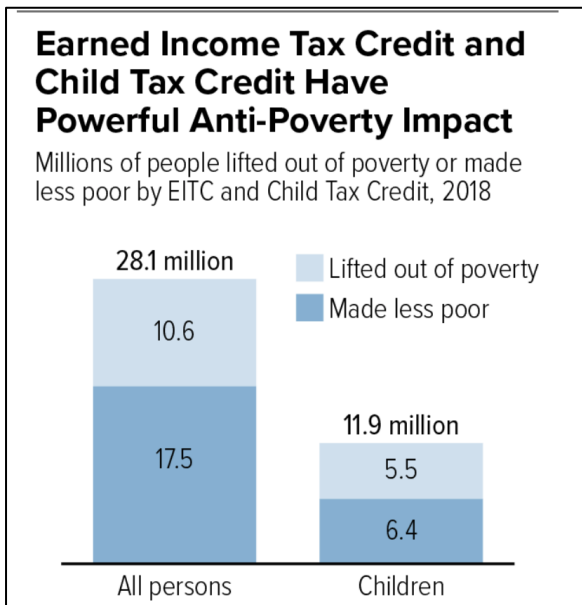
## Testimony IN SUPPORT of SB 771 and SB 772

I am a pediatrician who works in New Haven, CT and Chair of the Advocacy Committee for the CT Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. These are my personal views and do not reflect those of my employer.

I am writing in **strong support** of **SB 771**: An Act Establishing a Refundable Child Tax Credit (CTC) and **SB 772**: An Act Increasing the Applicable Percentage of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

As a pediatrician, every day I see how poverty harms children. [The American Academy of Pediatrics Policy Statement on Poverty](#) describes how children who experience hunger, unstable housing, violence, parental mental health disease experience poorer health outcomes such as higher rates of obesity, asthma, poor school performance, and emotional and behavioral challenges. Further, poverty is a [racial justice issue in CT](#): 27 % of Black children, 29 % of Hispanic children, and only 5 % of white children living in poverty.

[The Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit](#) are both powerful anti-poverty interventions (image below). A CT State CTC and expanded EITC would help families afford healthier food, safe childcare, reliable transportation, stable housing, and essential healthcare. Both credits would be an investment in the health and wellbeing of CT's children.



Thank you for considering my testimony. Please reach out with questions.

Sincerely,

**Molly Markowitz, MD FAAP**

Chair, Advocacy Committee

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