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Catholic Bishops of Ohio Statement on Child Tax Credit

COLUMBUS, OHIO – The Catholic Bishops of Ohio issued a signed statement urging lawmakers to include the child tax credit proposed in the Executive Budget to the FY 2026-2027 State Operating Budget.

Full statement:

"A principal aim of the law is upholding the infinite dignity of those needing the most support in society, especially families caring for the youngest in our state. For this reason, we, the Catholic bishops of Ohio, have long advocated for the creation of a refundable child tax credit. Child tax credits are a hallmark of pro-family public policy, as reflected in their broad, bipartisan support at the federal level. We are encouraged by the child tax credit proposal in the Executive Budget. This refundable \$1,000 per child credit would give evidence that our society welcomes and cherishes new life while helping families meet their unique needs in a flexible manner. The credit does not solve all of the difficulties of the increasing costs of raising children. Still, it is a critical step in allocating the state's resources to address a family's needs.

As the General Assembly continues deliberation on the operating budget, we urge lawmakers to restore the child tax credit. Prioritizing young children and their families recognizes the dignity of life and helps expectant parents to trust that their child will be born into a life-affirming culture. The child tax credit is sound economic policy, an incomparable tool for raising children out of poverty. It is also sound moral policy, fulfilling our shared responsibility to children and families who must come first in policymaking. We urge the Ohio Senate to craft a budget that more clearly reflects a civilization of love by prioritizing a refundable child tax credit."

A PDF of the full statement with the bishops' signatures is available at: ohiocathconf.org

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About the Catholic Conference of Ohio

Established in 1945, the Catholic Conference of Ohio is the official representative of the Catholic Church in matters of public policy affecting the Church and the general welfare of the citizens of Ohio.