The Urgent Once-in-a-Generation Chance

Getting Congress to Invest in our Children and Youth

June 10, 2021
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Once in a Generation

Getting Congress to Invest in our Children and Youth

Debbie Weinstein, dweinstein@chn.org
The Biden Plans

- American Jobs Plan
- American Families Plan
- Budget/Appropriations

Percent of children in poverty in 2022

- **Existing policy**
- **With American Families Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Existing policy</th>
<th>With American Families Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
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</table>

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG
What would cut child poverty in half in 2022?

- Expanded Child Tax Credit
- Expanded Earned Income Tax Credit
- Expanded Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit
- Food: Summer EBT
- Pell Grants

(Columbia U. poverty researchers)
➢ Make Child Tax Credit and EITC expansions permanent
➢ Expand housing vouchers, supply
➢ Keep SNAP and child nutrition increases: + territories
➢ Expand child care and early childhood programs
➢ Expand workforce/training programs/jobs
➢ National paid family/medical leave
➢ UI improvements
➢ Expand health coverage: + territories
➢ Extend eligibility to immigrants
- Bipartisan bills (needing 60 votes in the Senate)
- “Reconciliation” bills, only needing simple majority – spending, revenues
- Appropriations: need 60 votes in the Senate
How to pass a reconciliation bill

- House and Senate agree on a budget resolution:
  - House in July? Senate in August?
- It includes instructions to committees to come up with spending and revenues plans
- Reconciliation bills to floors sometime after Labor Day?
• Reconciliation bills have to have budgetary impact
• Senate parliamentarian decides
• Within 10-year window, does not have to be paid for
• If cost of item will extend beyond 10 years, has to be paid for, year by year
• Can’t change Social Security
• Can’t include regular appropriations
**No more caps!**

- Biden budget calls for 16.5% increase in domestic/international appropriations
- Biden calls for 1.6% increase in defense
- Controversies will slow enactment (needed by September 30)
- Likely at least one stop-gap spending bill (Continuing Resolution, aka “CR”)

**Appropriations:**

Includes funding for housing vouchers, education, WIC, some child care, Head Start, jobs programs...
TELL CONGRESS: REDUCE CHILD POVERTY PERMANENTLY

The American Rescue Plan, signed by President Biden in March, made substantial investments in children, youth and families—cutting child poverty in half. **But these investments only last one year.**

As Congress negotiates how to invest in our future and what to include from President Biden's proposed $4 trillion investment and tax plan, we need to ensure the needs of children, youth and families are a top priority.

[CLICK HERE](chn.org) to send a message to your members of Congress calling on them to include the following policies in the forthcoming investment and tax package:

What you can do: chn.org; click *Take Action*
➢ Contact your Rep and Senators – set up group meeting/call
➢ Can you organize a group letter in your state?
➢ If you’re in a state soon to eliminate pandemic UI, can you find people affected and tell press?
➢ Can you help parents get their Child Tax Credit?
➢ Can you write blogs, op-eds, LTE’s, tweet/other social media?

CHN can help: Contact Nicolai Haddal, nhaddal@chn.org
We will share...

- Updates about opportunities to take action
- Ways to learn more
- State data and analyses from experts
Thank you!

Look out for an email with a captioned recording, slides, and other resources from our presenters.

[Logo of Coalition on Human Needs]

[Logo of Partnership for America's Children]

chn.org

foramericaschildren.org