



**Testimony in Support of**  
**HB 5986 An Act Establishing A Refundable Child Tax Credit Against The Personal Income Tax**  
Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding  
02/26/2025

**Mendi Blue Paca**  
**President & CEO, Fairfield County's Community Foundation**

Chair Fonfara and Chair Horn, Ranking Member Fazio, Ranking Member Polletta and esteemed members of the Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding, Fairfield County's Community Foundation is grateful for this opportunity to submit written testimony in support of put in **HB 5986 An Act Establishing A Refundable Child Tax Credit Against The Personal Income Tax.**

[Fairfield County's Community Foundation](#) serves the 23 towns and cities in Fairfield County. We work closely with community organizations, nonprofits, businesses, and philanthropists to address challenges and identify opportunities to create a Fairfield County where everyone has an equitable opportunity to thrive. Informed by three decades of partnering with and serving our community, we have awarded over \$400 million in grants to nonprofits in Fairfield County and beyond.

The Foundation has had a longstanding focus on promoting social and economic mobility in our region, investing over \$1,000,000 annually to support organizations advancing economic opportunity through multi-year general operating support and proven programs. We believe that establishing a permanent child tax credit (CTC) aligns with our mission by providing families across the state with more flexibility to achieve financial goals. Returning money to families enables them to buy essential items for their children that other government programs won't cover.

Research provided by the Connecticut United Way and CT DataHaven found that a fully refundable CT CTC of \$600 per child benefits 550,000 children and 75% of families. A 100% refundable credit means that families who do not have a tax liability would receive the full value of the credit. Families will be able to spend these tax credits right away, boosting local businesses and the state economy. From July to December 2021, a child tax credit at the national level provided advance payments to nearly all U.S. families with dependent children each month; this led to a large drop in food insecurity among families with children, both nationally as well as in Connecticut. The estimated cost of the CTC for CT is approximately \$306 million per year. The Foundation believes that a permanent CTC would have measurable impacts on family economic well-being, assuming that it was of sufficient scale and reach.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **HB 5986 An Act Establishing A Refundable Child Tax Credit Against The Personal Income Tax.** If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Lutonya Russell-Humes, Vice President of Grants and Programs, [lrussell-humes@fccfoundation.org](mailto:lrussell-humes@fccfoundation.org), 203-750-3223.

Sincerely,

Mendi Blue Paca  
President & CEO