

April 1st, 2019

House Committee On Housing and Human Services
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301



Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice-Chairs Noble and Sanchez,
members of the committee,

My name is Ethan Livermore and I am the public policy associate with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. We are a statewide network of, congregations, interfaith and ecumenical organizations that serve and advocate for Oregon's most marginalized brothers and sisters in our communities.

We at Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon know that the EITC has improved and supported the lives of hundreds of thousands of Oregonians in need across the state, and we know that as the EITC is set to expire in 2020, now is the time to renew it. **That is why Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon supports HB 3028.**

We know that the EITC can be beneficial to 900,000 Oregonians that face challenges that keep them from affording the basic necessities without having to work multiple jobs at a time. No Oregonian should have to worry about providing food and utilities, or worry about things are necessary as transportation, while holding more than one job just to make ends meet. The EITC will help bring peace of mind to working Oregonians.

Evidence has shown that households that receive support through the EITC have children that are more likely to succeed in school, and more likely to have successful careers as adults. We also know that renewing the EITC will help our Oregon students succeed, knowing that 4 of 10 students in the state will be supported through improved supports that will help them perform in the classroom, help them stay healthy and focused on graduating high school and college, and supporting them to become successful and healthy, higher earning adults.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon supports HB 3028 because it will improve the credit to 12 percent of the federal tax credit, bringing Oregon more in line with states like Colorado, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Rhode Island. And with families who

have children under the ages of 6 and 3 receiving enhanced credits, we support the Oregon Legislature making a renewed investment in Oregon's families, workforce, and students through the EITC.

We urge the passing of HB 3028. The time is now for Oregon to renew our investment in our future generations and working families by renewing the EITC this session.

Thank you,
Ethan Livermore
[Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon](#)