



February 26, 2019

Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice Chairs Sanchez and Noble,  
House Committee on Human Services and Housing

**RE: Statement of support for HB 2139 (with 1 amendment)/HB 3028**

Dear Chair Keny-Guyer, Vice Chairs Sanchez and Noble, and committee members:

Community Action Partnership of Oregon's Board of Directors joins the long list of endorsers to renew and raise the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) set to expire in 2020.

Income eligible households applying for EITC receive cash that allows them to support their families with health, school, job and home-related investments that improve school performance, graduation rates, job performance and health outcomes. Examples we have heard from clients of the network include: paying for a summer camp, car repairs or new tires, new beds for children, paying off debt, buying clothes for a job interview.

The bill also gives enhanced credit for families with children under the age of 3, a critical time in the health and emotional development of young children.

The passage of this bill will put Oregon on par with other states that have raised the tax credit. Additionally, this influx of cash benefits the community by generating economic activity. A win-win for children, families and communities!

A member of the CAPO network will appear before you to talk more about how EITC benefits our communities.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barb", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Barb Higinbotham, President  
Board of Directors  
Executive Director  
Community in Action, Malheur and Harney Counties

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Merrell", written in a cursive style.

Janet Merrell  
Executive Director