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**June 17, 2010**

**Contact: Ericka Thoms  
Policy Associate  
(216) 470-0694**

**New Map Analysis Demonstrates District by District  
Need for a refundable Ohio EITC**

*Interactive maps now outline benefits of a refundable Earned Income Tax  
Credit for Every Ohio Districts*

CLEVELAND – This week marked two months since tax day 2010, advocates for improvements to the state tax code have launched a new tool to raise awareness about a refundable Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The Refund the Credit campaign has posted a pair of interactive maps to illustrate the impact of the refundable federal EITC and the value of creating a refundable state EITC. The maps detail how each Ohio House and Senate district benefits from the federal credit and how much additional money would come in to districts from a refundable state credit. This year a refundable EITC, at five percent of the federal program, would have brought the average family an additional \$100.

The credit goes to working families and has proven to encourage work over welfare, reduce child poverty, and increase local economic activity. Twenty-three states plus the District of Columbia have enacted state EITCs including Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. "This is a proven poverty relief program for working families," said David Rothstein, Researcher at Policy Matters Ohio and developer of the maps.

The federal credit brought over \$1.6 billion to more than 800,000 Ohioans. "Very few programs help families in all regions, urban, suburban and rural," said Ericka Thoms, Policy Associate at Voices for Ohio's Children and coordinator for the Refund the Credit campaign. "These maps highlight the broad reach of the refundable EITC and its unique impact."

Voices for Ohio's Children executive director Amy Swanson stressed the importance of refundability, "It is critical that an EITC be refundable to have its greatest effect. A non-refundable credit does little to lift families above the poverty line because it only offsets taxes owed rather supplements earnings."

Maps for Ohio House districts can be found at [www.Policymattersohio.org/ohiodistrictprofiles/house.htm](http://www.Policymattersohio.org/ohiodistrictprofiles/house.htm)

Maps for the Ohio Senate can be found at [www.Policymattersohio.org/ohiodistrictprofiles/senate.htm](http://www.Policymattersohio.org/ohiodistrictprofiles/senate.htm)

The Refund the Credit campaign is a coalition of advocates from across Ohio committed to building family economic security through enactment of a refundable state EITC and making the Child and Dependent Care Credit refundable. Filers interested in determining their eligibility for these family credits should contact the Ohio Benefit Bank at <http://www.thebenefitbank.com/TBBOH>.

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