

**House Finance**

**04/08/2024 01:30 PM**

**HB24-1311 Family Affordability Tax Credit**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

<b>Name, Position, Representing</b>	<b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>
Vernon Jones Jr For FaithBridge	<p>I want to thank the prime sponsors, Rep. J. Willford, Rep. C. deGruy Kennedy, Sen. J. Coleman, and Sen. F. Winter. I want to also express my appreciation to this committee for hearing our collective voices that are in support of HB24-1311.</p> <p>I am Vernon Jones Jr. I serve as the Executive Lead of Faithbridge, an advocacy organization that seeks a world where all children have equitable opportunities and are achieving excellent outcomes aligned with their hopes. So much of that desired reality begins and ends with the realities that children are raised in. Too many children are stuck in places and cycles of intentional lack, in opportunities deserts, and unable to achieve the outcomes that will make their hopes realized. This is not okay. This is something that we can change and that we must change.</p> <p>The Family Affordability Tax Credit is a step in the right direction. The FATC is an acknowledgement of the needs that remain prevalent for individuals and families that are often struggling to survive and to make ends meet. This is a giving back to families to lift them and to set them up to achieve all that they hope for together. It is our opportunity and one that we can not pass.</p> <p>I talk with families and students every day. Many of the frustrations that we hear are related to the inability to meet basic needs. So many of the struggles that are being endured can be eliminated by generosity. So many of the tables that go without could be provided meals. Those who are struggling to keep shelter over their heads could find some level of relief. It is within our hands to do differently so that the world will be what we hope it to be.</p>

	<p>I ask for a yes vote from the committee.</p>
<p>Evie Hudak For Colorado PTA</p>	<p>Colorado PTA supports House Bill 1311. PTA is committed to promoting the well-being of children and families, and we support laws providing the necessary services, policies, and requirements to accomplish that.</p> <p>PTA is committed to removing the barriers faced by at-risk children and families. We support programs that eliminate poverty. We know that children’s health and educational success are improved when their family is economically stable. PTA has supported all previous legislation increasing the amounts of the Colorado Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit. We believe these are vital to help low-income families provide for their children and that the Family Affordability Tax Credit will be an excellent addition to funding for those purposes.</p> <p>We must mention that PTA continues to be concerned about the inadequate levels of services and supports for children and their families because of the constraints of TABOR. We do support using the TABOR surplus to pay for this bill, but we wish our state weren’t so limited in its available revenue because of TABOR.</p> <p>Overall, we believe that HB 1311 will do a lot to improve equity and opportunity for Colorado within the fiscal realities of our state.</p>