



4/7/2026

The Honorable Louis P. DiPalma
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
State of Rhode Island General Assembly
82 Smith Street, Providence, RI 02903

Re: Support for S2823 - Child Tax Credit

Chairman DiPalma and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in strong support of S2823, which would establish an annual child tax credit in the amount of \$650 per child age 18 years or younger. Child tax credits are a proven strategy to help families meet children's basic needs and improve family financial stability. This bill is a powerful step towards reducing child poverty in Rhode Island and boosting child and family well-being.

My name is Margaret Holland McDuff and I am CEO of Family Service of Rhode Island (FSRI). FSRI is a behavioral health and social service organization with the mission "to advance hope and opportunity in our communities." We have been serving Rhode Islanders for over a century through programs that support healthy child development, provide essential behavioral health and social services, and coordinate crisis intervention efforts that help children and families thrive.

FSRI strongly supports bill S2823, which would ensure that vulnerable families receive vital financial assistance through an annual child tax credit. This credit would help reduce financial stress and allow families to better meet their children's basic needs. By supporting a child tax credit, Rhode Island has an opportunity to proactively reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect.

The services and supports we invest in for our children, youth, and families today will determine the future health and well-being of our state. When we invest in our children, and in the individuals and systems that support them, we build a stronger, brighter future for all.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment in support of this critical legislation. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or for further discussion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Margaret Holland McDuff'.

Margaret Holland McDuff
CEO