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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF:**

**SB 740 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REFUNDABLE CHILD TAX CREDIT  
HB 5968 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REFUNDABLE CHILD TAX CREDIT AGAINST THE  
PERSONAL INCOME TAX**

Greetings Chair Fonfara, Chair Horn, Senator Fazio, Representative Polletta, and members of the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 740 and House Bill 5968.

I care deeply about the concept of a child tax credit and championed creating one during my tenure as chairman of this committee.

The reason was simple: raising kids is expensive, and making Connecticut more affordable for young families will create the economic growth we all want to see. Further, tax cuts such as this have a proven track record of reducing child poverty. During the one year the federal child tax credit was expanded under President Biden, child poverty was cut in half in this country.

In 2021, Senator Fonfara and I introduced a committee bill to create Connecticut's first refundable child tax credit. While it passed in committee, it did not pass the full legislature.

At the height of the inflation crisis a year later in 2022, we did take a great step towards a child tax credit by creating the first Child Tax Rebate. That summer, parents received \$250 checks per child up to three children. I traveled the state to promote the program, and 238,668 parents of 369,883 children claimed the rebate.

As I traveled the state promoting the rebate and urging parents to claim it, I heard first-hand how much of a game-changer this was for working families like the one I grew up in.

This year, with prices still high and the cost of things like energy and housing rising, we have the opportunity to provide much-needed relief once again.

I know first-hand how difficult it can be to craft a revenue package given all the well-intentioned tax reform proposals facing this committee. Yet, I believe in my heart that

creating some form of a state Child Tax Credit or continuing the Child Tax Rebate is still the most transformational policy we can adopt to combat child poverty from a tax perspective.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Scanlon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sean" and last name "Scanlon" clearly distinguishable.

Sean Scanlon

State Comptroller