

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 536

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strengthen the earned income tax credit.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 14, 2009

Mr. PASCARELL (for himself and Mr. BOREN) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strengthen the earned income tax credit.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Strengthen the Earned  
5 Income Tax Credit Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. STRENGTHEN THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT.**

7 (a) REDUCTION IN MARRIAGE PENALTY.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 32(b)(2)(B) of the  
9 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to joint re-  
10 turns) is amended—

1 (A) in clause (iii) by striking “after 2007.”  
2 and inserting “in 2008,” and

3 (B) by inserting after clause (iii) the fol-  
4 lowing new clauses:

5 “(iv) \$3,500 in the case of taxable  
6 years beginning in 2009,

7 “(v) \$4,000 in the case of taxable  
8 years beginning in 2010,

9 “(vi) \$4,500 in the case of taxable  
10 years beginning in 2011, and

11 “(vii) \$5,000 in the case of taxable  
12 years beginning after 2012.”.

13 (2) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section  
14 32(j)(1)(B)(ii) of such Code is amended—

15 (A) by striking “\$3,000 amount in sub-  
16 section (b)(2)(B)(iii)” and inserting “\$5,000  
17 amount in subsection (b)(2)(B)(vii)”, and

18 (B) by striking “2007” and inserting  
19 “2010”.

20 (3) PROVISIONS NOT SUBJECT TO SUNSET.—  
21 Title IX of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief  
22 Reconciliation Act of 2001 (relating to sunset provi-  
23 sions of such Act) shall not apply to section 303(a)  
24 of such Act.

1 (b) INCREASE IN CREDIT PERCENTAGE FOR FAMI-  
 2 LIES WITH 3 OR MORE CHILDREN.—The table contained  
 3 in section 32(b)(1)(A) of such Code (relating to percent-  
 4 ages) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “2 or more qualifying children”  
 6 in the second row and inserting “2 qualifying chil-  
 7 dren”, and

8 (2) by inserting after the second row the fol-  
 9 lowing new item:

“3 or more qualifying children .....	45 .....	21.06”.
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10 (c) CREDIT INCREASE AND REDUCTION IN PHASE-  
 11 OUT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH NO CHILDREN.—The table  
 12 contained in section 32(b)(1)(A) of such Code is amend-  
 13 ed—

14 (1) by striking “7.65” in the second column of  
 15 the third row and inserting “15.3”, and

16 (2) by striking “7.65” in the third column of  
 17 the third row and inserting “15.3”.

18 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
 19 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after  
 20 December 31, 2008.

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