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**New Mexico House Delegation Joins Together to Help Working Families**

*Legislation Would Make Child Tax Credit Refundable for Next 5 Years*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Monday, less than one week since Representatives Martin Heinrich, Harry Teague, and Ben Ray Lujan were sworn in, they joined together to announce legislation that would help New Mexico's working families. Representative Harry Teague introduced H. R. 452 that would make the Child Tax Credit refundable for the next five years, allowing working class families to benefit from the Child Tax Credit. Representatives Heinrich and Lujan are signed on as original cosponsors to the bill.

"This legislation will continue to provide much needed economic relief to those hit the hardest by the downturn in the economy - our working families," said Representative Martin Heinrich. "I will continue to work so that any stimulus package puts New Mexico's working families first."

"My constituents in Southern New Mexico sat by and watched as Wall Street banks benefited from a massive public bailout, and watched again as Congress acted to save Detroit automakers. By making the Child Tax Credit refundable we will give a helping hand to working Americans in Southern New Mexico and across the country," said Representative Harry Teague. "The working families that are eligible for this credit are the backbone of America. By making the Child Tax Credit refundable we can help them through these hard times and ensure the economy receives a full stimulus benefit when they begin to cycle those dollars back into the economy."

"As families struggle during this difficult economic time, it is important for Congress and the Administration to focus on hardworking families throughout New Mexico and the country who are having trouble making ends meet," said Rep. Ben Ray Luján. "By making the Child Tax Credit refundable for five years, we will help these families by putting money in the hands of those who need it the most. The Credit will stimulate the economy as the families spend the money they receive at local retailers and businesses that will be able to create jobs in our communities. I am proud to join the New Mexico delegation in supporting this important legislation that will help get our economy back on track."

[Go back](#)