To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the dependent care tax credit, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES
JULY 8, 2014

Mrs. Shaheen (for herself, Mrs. Boxer, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Gillibrand, and Ms. Mikulski) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL
To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the dependent care tax credit, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the “Helping Working Families Afford Child Care Act”.

SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENT OF THE DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT.
(a) INCREASE IN DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT.—
(1) INCREASE IN INCOMES ELIGIBLE FOR FULL CREDIT.—Paragraph (2) of section 21(a) of the In-
ternal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(2) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE DEFINED.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘applicable percentage’ means 20 percent reduced (but not below zero) by 1 percentage point for each $5,000 (or fraction thereof) by which the taxpayer’s adjusted gross income for the taxable year exceeds $200,000.”.

(2) INCREASE IN DOLLAR LIMIT ON AMOUNT CREDITABLE.—Subsection (c) of section 21 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking “$3,000” in paragraph (1) and inserting “$8,000”, and

(B) by striking “$6,000” in paragraph (2) and inserting “$16,000”.

(3) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 21 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g), and

(B) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2015, the $200,000 amount in subsection (a)(2) and each of the dollar amounts in
subsection (c) shall each be increased by an amount
equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment deter-
dined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar
year in which the taxable year begins, by sub-
stituting ‘2014’ for ‘1992’ in subparagraph (B)
thereof.

“(2) ROUNDING.—The amount of any increase
under paragraph (1) shall be rounded—

“(A) for purposes of the dollar amount in
subsection (a)(2), the nearest multiple of
$1,000, and

“(B) for purposes of the dollar amounts in
subsection (c), the nearest multiple of $100.”.

(b) DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT TO BE REFUND-
ABLE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Internal Revenue Code
of 1986 is amended—

(A) by redesignating section 21, as amend-
ed by subsection (a), as section 36C, and

(B) by moving section 36C, as so redesig-
nated, from subpart A of part IV of subchapter
A of chapter 1 to the location immediately be-
fore section 37 in subpart C of part IV of sub-
chapter A of chapter 1.

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Paragraph (1) of section 23(f) of the
Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by
striking “21(e)” and inserting “36C(e)”.

(B) Paragraph (6) of section 35(g) of such
Code is amended by striking “21(e)” and in-
serting “36C(e)”.

(C) Paragraph (1) of section 36C(a) of
such Code (as redesignated by paragraph (1))
is amended by striking “this chapter” and in-
serting “this subtitle”.

(D) Subparagraph (C) of section 129(a)(2)
of such Code is amended by striking “section
21(e)” and inserting “section 36C(e)”.

(E) Paragraph (2) of section 129(b) of
such Code is amended by striking “section
21(d)(2)” and inserting “section 36C(d)(2)”.

(F) Paragraph (1) of section 129(e) of
such Code is amended by striking “section
21(b)(2)” and inserting “section 36C(b)(2)”.

(G) Subsection (e) of section 213 of such
Code is amended by striking “section 21” and
inserting “section 36C”.

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(H) Subparagraph (A) of section 6211(b)(4) of such Code is amended by inserting “36C,” after “36B,”.

(I) Subparagraph (H) of section 6213(g)(2) of such Code is amended by striking “section 21” and inserting “section 36C”.

(J) Subparagraph (L) of section 6213(g)(2) of such Code is amended by striking “section 21, 24, 32,” and inserting “section 24, 32, 36C,”.

(K) Paragraph (2) of section 1324(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “36C,” after “36B,”.

(L) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 36B the following:

“Sec. 36C. Expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment.”.

(M) The table of sections for subpart A of such part IV of such Code is amended by striking the item relating to section 21.
(c) Effective Date.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2014.