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Expressing the sense of the Congress that the earned income tax credit is a program of critical importance designed to assist the working poor.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 28, 2003

Mr. PASCRELL submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the earned income tax credit is a program of critical importance designed to assist the working poor.

Whereas the earned income tax credit is a major Federal effort to assist the working poor;

Whereas the earned income tax credit is intended to offset the burden of the social security payroll tax on low-income workers and to encourage low-income individuals to work;

Whereas those eligible for the earned income tax credit are working families with 2 or more children earning less than \$34,178 annually, families with one child earning less than \$30,201 annually, and individuals 24 years of age or older, making less than \$11,060;

Whereas the latest statistics show that of the 17,200,000 households nationwide that were eligible for the credit about 12,900,000 claimed the credit;

Whereas of the \$23,500,000,000 available from the earned income tax credit, only \$20,900,000,000 was used as a result of incomplete participation; and

Whereas the 4,300,000 eligible households that did not claim the credit did not receive \$2,700,000,000 of credits in which they were eligible: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) the earned income tax credit is a program
4 of critical importance designed to assist the working
5 poor; and

6 (2) the Internal Revenue Service and Members
7 of Congress—

8 (A) must be fully aware that not all eligi-
9 ble workers take advantage of the earned in-
10 come tax credit, and

11 (B) should take steps to increase the num-
12 ber of qualifying residents who claim the credit.

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