

## *The Kid Angle*

*Kid-focused news from First Focus on Children*

Say it ain't so, Joe  
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### Sen. Manchin, now is the time to stick with kids

Some members of Congress have consistently supported children. And especially improvements to the Child Tax Credit. One name among them may surprise you: **Joe Manchin**.

The West Virginia senator currently cast as the boogeyman preventing children from getting a fair shake, has voted to improve the Child Tax Credit **every single time the issue has come up** in the last four years.

As **First Focus on Children President Bruce Lesley** noted recently on Twitter:



**Bruce Lesley**  
@BruceLesley

There have been 3 major votes to improve the Child Tax Credit since 2017.

2/3rd of the Senate have voted in favor of CTC improvements in some form since 2017.

5 have voted for all 3. They are: @SenAngusKing @amyklobuchar @SenGaryPeters @SenStabenow and @Sen\_JoeManchin! (5)

PROUD TO STAND AS A  
**CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN**  
ON THE FIRST FOCUS CAMPAIGN FOR CHILDREN  
LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

#Champions4Children See the full scorecard at [www.ffccscorecard.org](http://www.ffccscorecard.org)

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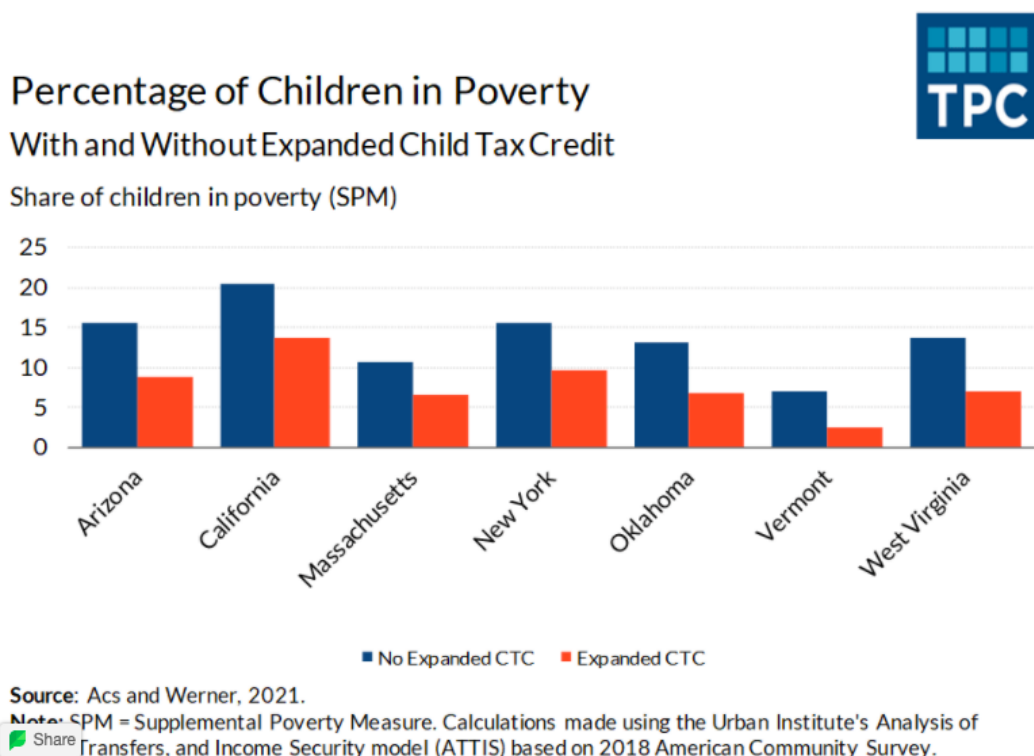
Voting to extend recent improvements to the Child Tax Credit makes sense for Manchin. His state stands to benefit more than almost any other: **West Virginia's [child poverty rate was nearly 20% in 2019, the 7<sup>th</sup> highest](#)** in the country. Nearly [30% of the state's children](#) weren't getting enough to eat or lived in families who were behind on their rent or mortgage.

After just one payment of the enhanced Child Tax Credit this past summer, census data showed that [hunger among West Virginia's children dropped from almost 12% to just over 8%](#).

Experts estimate that extending the improvements to the Child Tax Credit would reduce child poverty from 14.2% to 8.4% nationally – a reduction of over 40%. Child poverty would drop to [less than 10% in nearly every state, including West Virginia](#), where nearly 350,000 children – or 93% of the state's kids – would receive monthly economic support.

If Sen. Manchin allows the improvements to expire, as they are set to at the end of the year, the [percentage of children in poverty in West Virginia will \*\*DOUBLE\*\*](#). Practically overnight.

*(P.S. You'll notice that child poverty will also roughly double in Arizona, home state of the other great holdout on this issue, [Sen. Kyrsten Sinema](#).)*



Sen. Manchin, it's time to get back to defending children. It's time to stop talking about how much this package costs and start looking at what it buys: [A giant step toward the eradication of child poverty and generations of well-being.](#)