



Midwestern Governors Association

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***Midwestern Governors Encourage Taxpayers to Claim
Earned Income Tax Credit***

Washington, D.C. – Every year, Midwestern families and communities lose valuable federal dollars available to them when eligible taxpayers do not claim the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Recognizing the impact of this lost revenue on local and state economies, and on state budgets, the region’s governors are encouraging individuals to take full advantage of the credit during this tax-filing season.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) estimates that approximately one in four people who qualify for the EITC do not participate. And according to the Minnesota-based West Central Initiative, as much as \$2.7 billion annually are left unclaimed by residents of the MGA states.

“At a time when families need more of their income to pay the bills, this tax credit provides hard working families access to more of their hard-earned wages, said Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm, MGA chair. “Congress and the states have been working hard to enact programs to help boost the economy, but we also need to increase the awareness and use of current programs that are available.”

In addition to individuals, the MGA encourages employers to learn more about the EITC to educate employees who may be eligible. For the 2008 tax year, the credit amount ranged from \$4,824 for a family with two children to \$438 for a single-worker with no dependents.

To learn more about the EITC, or to see if you qualify, please visit the IRS’ website:

<http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=130102,00.html>

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