

June 8, 2011

The EITC's Benefits by District

SB 349 would help a significant share of lawmakers' constituents

As the 2011 legislature enters its final weeks and lawmakers consider bills that would have a positive economic impact for their districts, they should know that a significant share of their constituents utilize the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC, acknowledged as one of the most effective anti-poverty programs, gives a hand up to working families with children.

The tables below show that one in seven taxpayers relies on the EITC. In some legislative districts more than one in five taxpayers rely on the EITC.

In 2008 the federal EITC brought \$452 million in federal dollars into Oregon, averaging \$7.5 million per House district, \$15 million per Senate district.

Oregon supplements the value of the federal credit with the Oregon EITC, which currently equals 6 percent of the federal credit.

Oregon's credit is small. The average recipient gets about \$109. Oregon's EITC is among the smallest of state EITC credits. At 6 percent it is only one-third the size of what it would need to rank in the middle of the pack among state EITCs.

Most states have chosen not to levy income taxes on the working poor, but Oregon has not. Raising the Oregon EITC is the most targeted way to accomplish that goal.

Increasing the Oregon EITC would be a small but important step toward achieving a tax system that is based on ability to pay. When state and local taxes are combined, Oregon's low-wage workers pay a higher share of their income in taxes than the highest-paid workers. The 20 percent of non-elderly Oregon families at the bottom of the income scale pay 8.7 percent of their income in state and local taxes, while the top 1 percent pay only 6.6 percent. Increasing the Oregon EITC would start to reverse that imbalance.

Senate Bill 349 proposes to improve Oregon's EITC by increasing its size to 18 percent of the federal credit. To soften its fiscal impact, the bill would phase-in the increase in increments of 3 percentage points per year over a four-year period.

By supporting this legislation, lawmakers would be providing concrete assistance to a significant number of their constituents. They would be helping low-income, working families with children make ends meet.

The EITC's Benefits By District

Federal Earned Income Tax Credit by State House District, 2008						
House District	Representative	# of Returns	# of EITC Returns	EITC Share	EITC Amount	Share Rank
1	Krieger	33,637	6,064	18.0%	\$11,078,650	16
2	Freeman	19,446	3,553	18.3%	\$6,590,355	13
3	Hicks	26,440	5,366	20.3%	\$9,837,900	6
4	Richardson	28,862	5,217	18.1%	\$9,608,097	14
5	Buckley	29,347	5,127	17.5%	\$8,865,639	18
6	Esquivel	28,711	5,081	17.7%	\$9,891,261	17
7	Hanna	24,167	4,362	18.1%	\$7,912,981	15
8	Holvey	26,746	3,366	12.6%	\$5,082,189	47
9	Roblan	25,707	4,490	17.5%	\$8,014,111	19
10	Cowan	27,106	4,409	16.3%	\$7,590,734	24
11	Barnhart	26,851	3,796	14.1%	\$6,428,701	35
12	Beyer	26,167	4,963	19.0%	\$9,304,627	9
13	Nathanson	29,524	3,992	13.5%	\$6,357,264	41
14	Hoyle	27,986	4,767	17.0%	\$8,177,215	21
15	Olson	28,961	4,255	14.7%	\$7,824,631	28
16	Gelser	26,294	2,741	10.4%	\$3,966,021	53
17	Sprenger	25,830	4,213	16.3%	\$7,966,985	23
18	Gilliam	27,054	3,735	13.8%	\$7,328,933	39
19	Cameron	27,205	3,881	14.3%	\$7,586,344	32
20	Berger	27,324	3,877	14.2%	\$7,391,401	34
21	Clem	25,289	5,291	20.9%	\$10,844,455	4
22	Komp	23,586	5,182	22.0%	\$11,033,402	1
23	Thompson	27,345	3,990	14.6%	\$7,616,219	29
24	Weidner	27,157	4,182	15.4%	\$8,291,878	26
25	Thatcher	28,206	4,017	14.2%	\$7,802,606	33
26	Wingard	31,035	3,000	9.7%	\$5,454,241	55
27	Read	29,495	2,878	9.8%	\$4,920,113	54
28	Barker	29,979	3,365	11.2%	\$6,147,599	51
29	Brewer	26,290	3,676	14.0%	\$7,348,725	37
30	Lindsay	33,227	3,636	10.9%	\$6,739,929	52
31	Witt	27,852	3,626	13.0%	\$6,463,769	44
32	Boone	27,362	3,968	14.5%	\$7,047,996	31
33	Greenlick	37,927	2,813	7.4%	\$3,082,376	59
34	Harker	32,000	3,592	11.2%	\$6,491,013	50
35	Doherty	31,138	2,928	9.4%	\$4,854,098	56
36	Nolan	32,375	2,407	7.4%	\$2,362,116	58
37	Parrish	29,691	2,309	7.8%	\$3,965,119	57
38	Garrett	28,907	1,681	5.8%	\$2,332,736	60
39	Kennemer	28,465	3,220	11.3%	\$5,898,055	49
40	Hunt	27,663	3,544	12.8%	\$6,201,762	46
41	Tomei	28,596	4,022	14.1%	\$6,213,682	36
42	Bailey	33,121	4,069	12.3%	\$4,169,884	48
43	Frederick	30,759	4,246	13.8%	\$5,944,521	40
44	Kotek	29,079	5,077	17.5%	\$8,888,512	20
45	Dembrow	28,412	3,951	13.9%	\$6,548,201	38
46	Cannon	27,930	4,059	14.5%	\$6,446,432	30
47	Smith, J.	26,768	5,565	20.8%	\$11,560,311	5
48	Schaufler	27,387	5,847	21.3%	\$12,233,785	3
49	Wand	29,129	4,849	16.6%	\$9,772,968	22
50	Matthews	27,524	4,197	15.2%	\$8,407,798	27
51	Sheehan	32,814	4,378	13.3%	\$8,279,116	42
52	Johnson	29,109	3,865	13.3%	\$6,855,288	43
53	Whisnant	34,182	5,462	16.0%	\$10,184,643	25

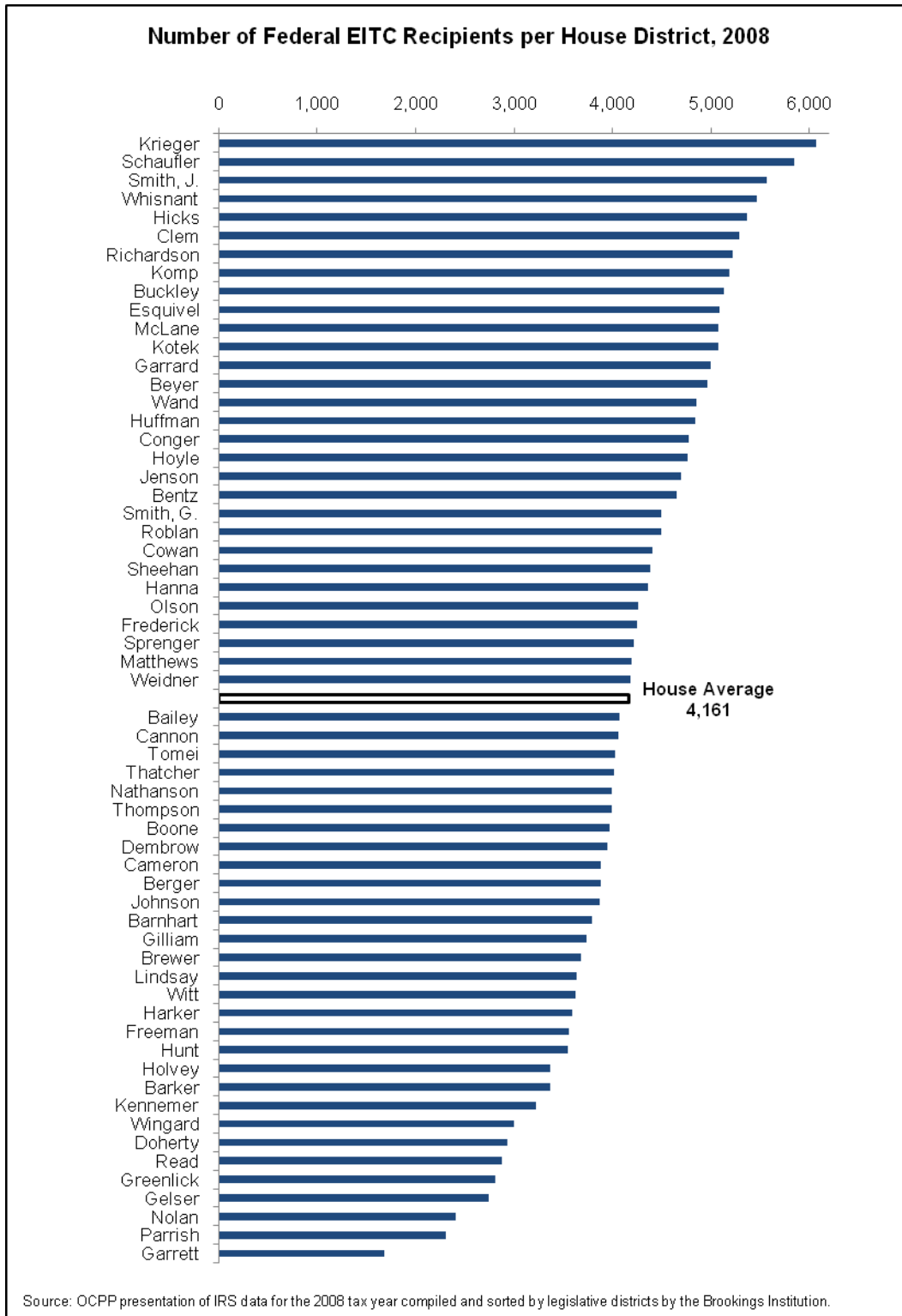
Federal Earned Income Tax Credit by State House District, 2008						
54	Conger	36,876	4,776	13.0%	\$8,208,248	45
55	McLane	27,106	5,079	18.7%	\$9,572,842	11
56	Garrard	25,147	4,994	19.9%	\$9,612,063	7
57	Smith, G.	24,514	4,492	18.3%	\$8,860,759	12
58	Jenson	24,213	4,698	19.4%	\$9,694,055	8
59	Huffman	25,621	4,842	18.9%	\$9,428,903	10
60	Bentz	21,257	4,648	21.9%	\$9,583,726	2
House Average		28,298	4,161	15.0%	\$7,536,133	--

Source: OCPP presentation of IRS data for the 2008 tax year compiled and sorted by legislative districts by the Brookings Institution.

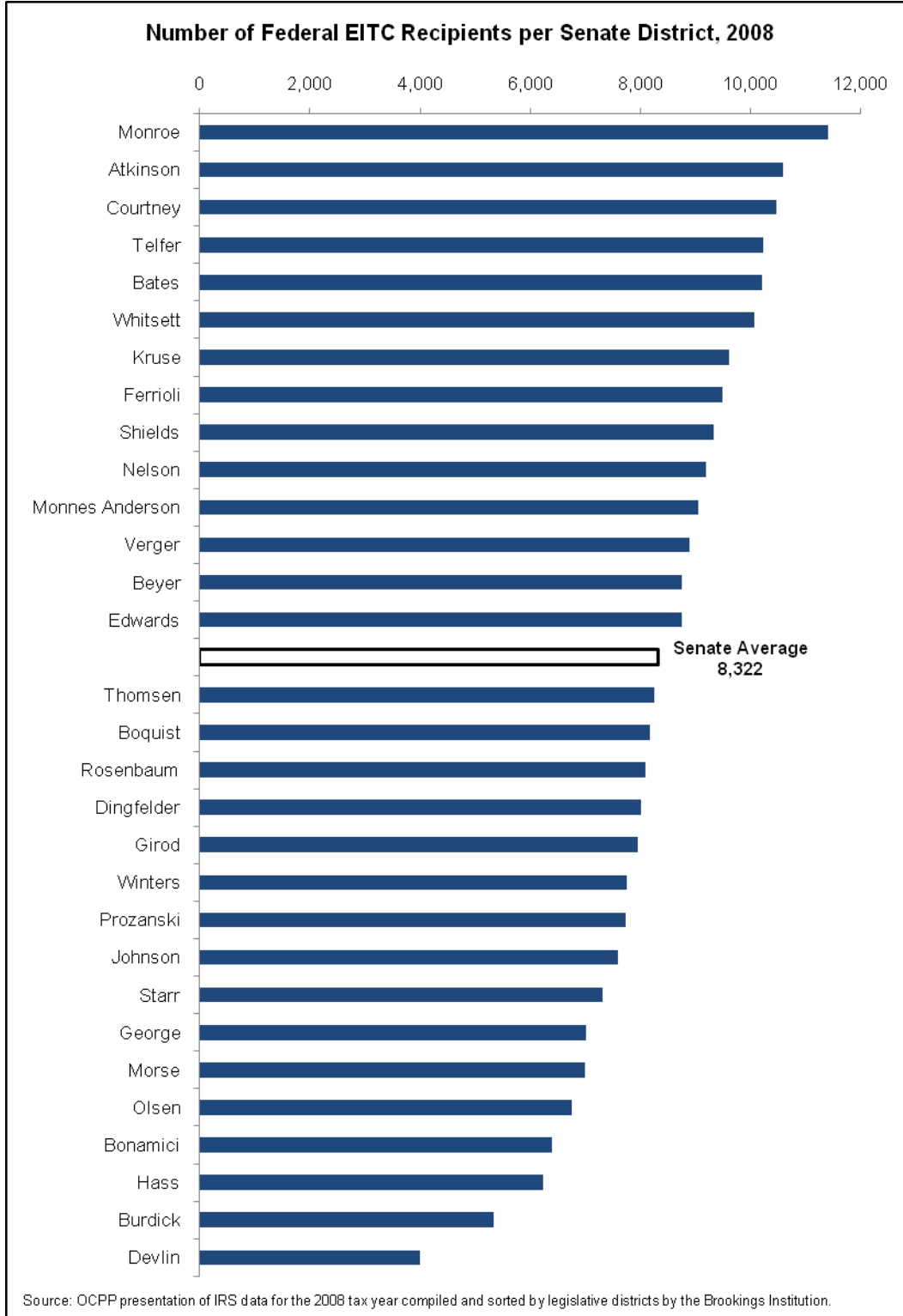
Federal Earned Income Tax Credit by State Senate District, 2008						
Senate District	Senator	# of Returns	# of EITC Returns	EITC Share	EITC Amount	Share Rank
1	Kruse	53,083	9,617	18.1%	\$17,669,005	7
2	Atkinson	55,304	10,583	19.1%	\$19,446,427	5
3	Bates	58,060	10,208	17.6%	\$18,757,650	8
4	Prozanski	50,920	7,729	15.2%	\$12,996,321	14
5	Verger	52,814	8,899	16.8%	\$15,604,845	9
6	Beyer	53,017	8,759	16.5%	\$15,733,070	10
7	Edwards	57,503	8,759	15.2%	\$14,533,585	13
8	Morse	55,255	6,996	12.7%	\$11,790,652	23
9	Girod	52,897	7,950	15.0%	\$15,300,484	15
10	Winters	54,519	7,756	14.2%	\$14,974,511	18
11	Courtney	48,872	10,472	21.4%	\$21,876,527	1
12	Boquist	54,502	8,171	15.0%	\$15,908,097	16
13	George	59,241	7,017	11.8%	\$13,256,820	26
14	Hass	59,471	6,243	10.5%	\$11,067,352	27
15	Starr	59,517	7,313	12.3%	\$14,088,654	24
16	Johnson	55,215	7,594	13.8%	\$13,511,857	20
17	Bonamici	69,927	6,405	9.2%	\$9,573,296	28
18	Burdick	63,516	5,335	8.4%	\$7,216,600	29
19	Devlin	58,598	3,990	6.8%	\$6,297,856	30
20	Olsen	56,128	6,764	12.1%	\$12,099,817	25
21	Rosenbaum	61,703	8,090	13.1%	\$10,382,547	22
22	Shields	59,826	9,322	15.6%	\$14,832,075	12
23	Dingfelder	56,369	8,012	14.2%	\$12,996,610	19
24	Monroe	54,154	11,411	21.1%	\$23,794,096	2
25	Monnes Anderson	56,653	9,046	16.0%	\$18,180,767	11
26	Thomsen	61,923	8,244	13.3%	\$15,134,404	21
27	Telfer	71,058	10,238	14.4%	\$18,392,891	17
28	Whitsett	52,249	10,073	19.3%	\$19,183,725	4
29	Nelson	48,728	9,190	18.9%	\$18,554,814	6
30	Ferrioli	46,878	9,490	20.2%	\$19,012,629	3
Senate Average		56,597	8,322	14.9%	\$15,072,266	--

Source: OCPP presentation of IRS data for the 2008 tax year compiled and sorted by legislative districts by the Brookings Institution.

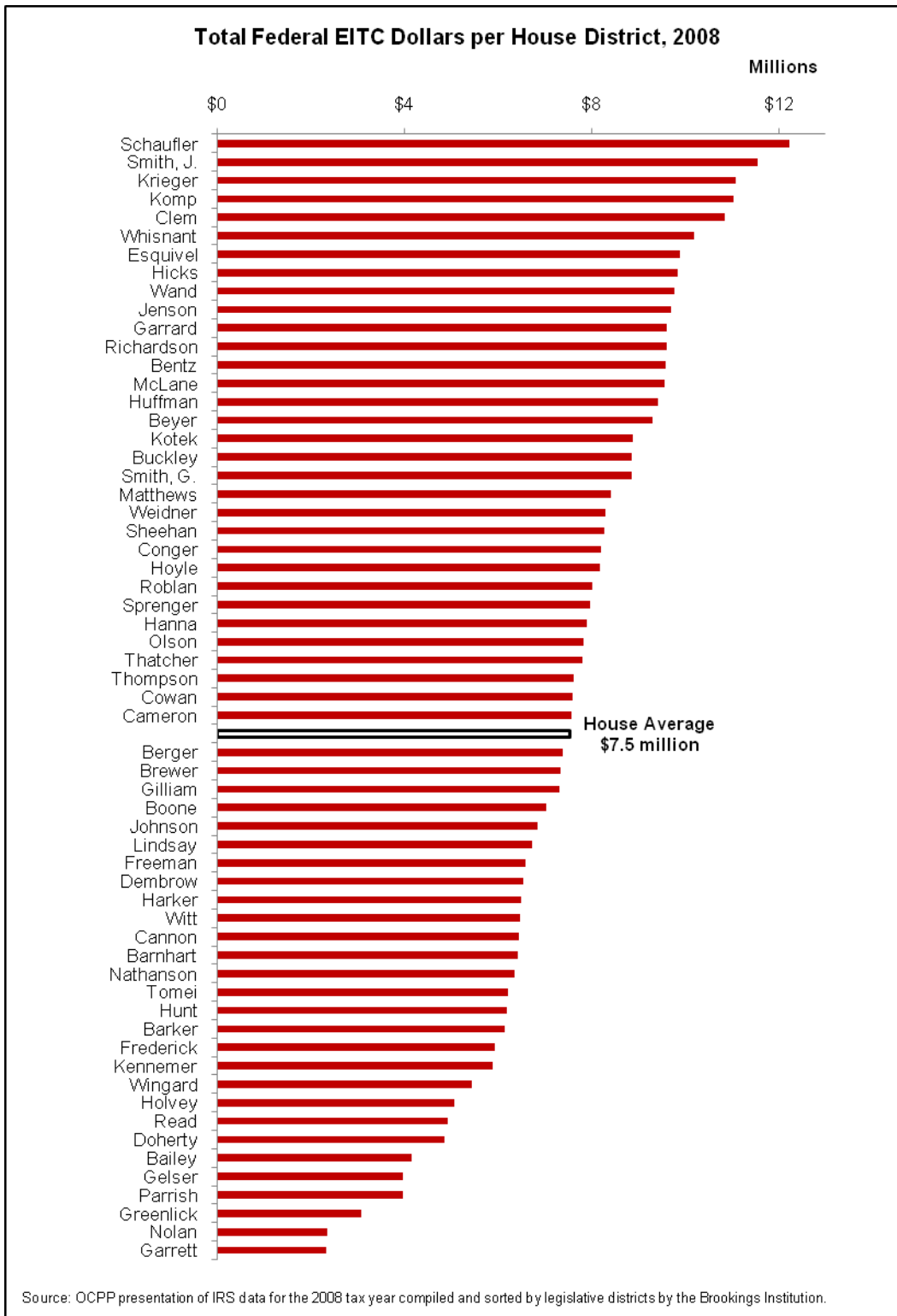
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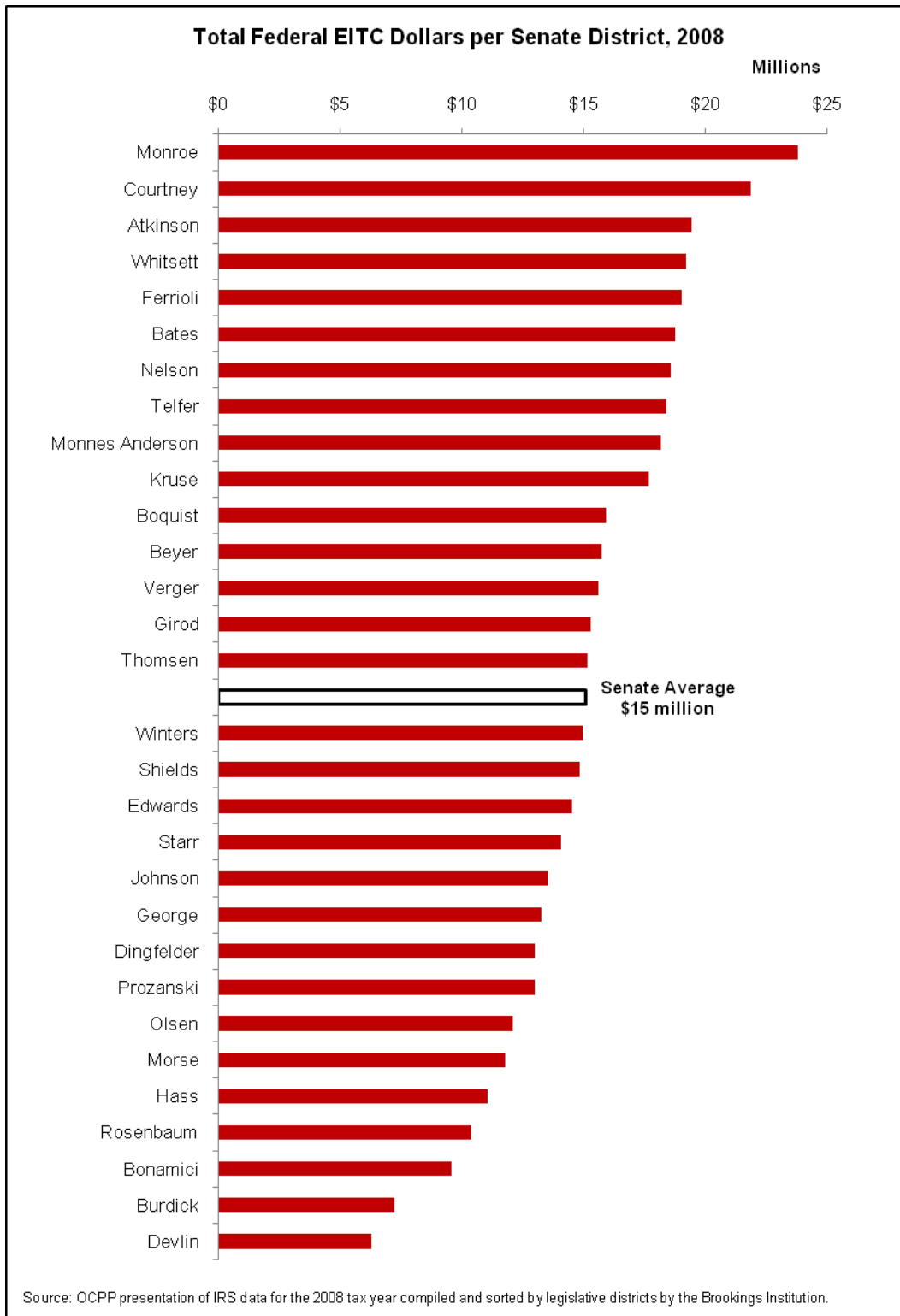
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