

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 2480
OFFERED BY MS. BONAMICI OF OREGON**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Stronger Child Abuse
3 Prevention and Treatment Act”.

4 SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

5 The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—GENERAL PROGRAM

Sec. 101. Repeal of findings.
Sec. 102. Repeal of Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect.
Sec. 103. National clearinghouse for information relating to child abuse.
Sec. 104. Research and assistance activities.
Sec. 105. Grants to States, Indian Tribes or tribal organizations, and public or private agencies and organizations.
Sec. 106. Grants to States for child abuse or neglect prevention and treatment programs.
Sec. 107. Miscellaneous requirements.
Sec. 108. Reports.
Sec. 109. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 110. Electronic interstate data exchange system.
Sec. 111. Technical and conforming amendments.

TITLE II—COMMUNITY-BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Sec. 201. Purpose and authority.
Sec. 202. Eligibility.
Sec. 203. Amount of grant.
Sec. 204. Application.
Sec. 205. Local program requirements.
Sec. 206. Performance measures.
Sec. 207. National network for community-based family resource programs.

1 “(v) the number of child fatalities and
2 near fatalities due to maltreatment, as re-
3 ported by States in accordance with the
4 uniform standards established pursuant to
5 subsection (d), and any other relevant in-
6 formation related to such fatalities;”;

7 (3) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(d) UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR TRACKING AND RE-
9 PORTING OF CHILD FATALITIES RESULTING FROM MAL-
10 TREATMENT.—

11 “(1) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—Not later than
12 24 months after the date of the enactment of the
13 Stronger Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment
14 Act, the Secretary shall develop and issue final regu-
15 lations establishing uniform standards for the track-
16 ing and reporting of child fatalities and near-fatali-
17 ties resulting from maltreatment. As a condition on
18 eligibility for receipt of funds under section 106, the
19 standards established under this paragraph shall be
20 used by States for the tracking and reporting of
21 such fatalities under subsection (d) of such section.

22 “(2) MAINTENANCE OF STATE LAW.—Notwith-
23 standing the uniform standards developed under
24 paragraph (1), a State that defines or describes such
25 fatalities for any purpose other than tracking and

1 reporting under this subsection may continue to use
2 that definition or description for such purpose.

3 “(3) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING.—In devel-
4 oping regulations under paragraph (1), the Sec-
5 retary shall submit such regulations to a negotiated
6 rulemaking process, which shall include the partici-
7 pants described in paragraph (4).

8 “(4) PARTICIPANTS DESCRIBED.—The partici-
9 pants described in this paragraph are—

10 “(A) State and county officials responsible
11 for administering the State plans under this
12 Act and parts B and E of title IV of the Social
13 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq., 670 et
14 seq.);

15 “(B) child welfare professionals with field
16 experience;

17 “(C) child welfare researchers;

18 “(D) domestic violence researchers;

19 “(E) domestic violence professionals;

20 “(F) child development professionals;

21 “(G) mental health professionals;

22 “(H) pediatric emergency medicine physi-
23 cians;

1 “(I) child abuse pediatricians, as certified
2 by the American Board of Pediatrics, who spe-
3 cialize in treating victims of child abuse;

4 “(J) forensic pathologists;

5 “(K) public health administrators;

6 “(L) public health researchers;

7 “(M) law enforcement;

8 “(N) family court judges;

9 “(O) prosecutors;

10 “(P) medical examiners and coroners;

11 “(Q) a representative from the National
12 Center for Fatality Review and Prevention; and

13 “(R) such other individuals and entities as
14 the Secretary determines to be appropriate.”.

15 **SEC. 104. RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES.**

16 Section 104 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
17 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105) is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (a)—

19 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as
20 follows:

21 “(1) TOPICS.—The Secretary shall, in consulta-
22 tion with other Federal agencies and recognized ex-
23 perts in the field, carry out a continuing inter-
24 disciplinary program of research, including longitu-
25 dinal research, that is designed to provide informa-

1 tion needed to improve primary prevention of child
2 abuse and neglect, better protect children from child
3 abuse or neglect, and improve the well-being of vic-
4 tims of child abuse or neglect, with at least a portion
5 of such research being field initiated. Such research
6 program may focus on—

7 “(A) disseminating evidence-based treat-
8 ment directed to individuals and families experi-
9 encing trauma due to child abuse and neglect,
10 including efforts to improve the scalability of
11 the treatments and programs being researched;

12 “(B) developing a set of evidence-based ap-
13 proaches to support child and family well-being
14 and developing ways to identify, relieve, and
15 mitigate stressors affecting families in rural,
16 urban, and suburban communities;

17 “(C) establishing methods to promote ra-
18 cial equity in the child welfare system, including
19 a focus on how neglect is defined, how services
20 are provided, and the unique impact on Native
21 American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian
22 communities;

23 “(D) improving service delivery or out-
24 comes for child welfare service agencies engaged

1 with families experiencing domestic violence,
2 substance use disorder, or other complex needs;

3 “(E) the extent to which the number of
4 unsubstantiated, unfounded, and false reported
5 cases of child abuse or neglect have contributed
6 to the inability of a State to respond effectively
7 to serious cases of child abuse or neglect;

8 “(F) the extent to which the lack of ade-
9 quate resources and the lack of adequate pro-
10 fessional development of individuals required by
11 law to report suspected cases of child abuse and
12 neglect have contributed to the inability of a
13 State to respond effectively to serious cases of
14 child abuse and neglect;

15 “(G) the extent to which unsubstantiated
16 reports return as more serious cases of child
17 abuse or neglect;

18 “(H) the incidence and outcomes of child
19 abuse and neglect allegations reported within
20 the context of divorce, custody, or other family
21 court proceedings, and the interaction between
22 family courts and the child protective services
23 system;

24 “(I) the information on the national inci-
25 dence of child abuse and neglect specified in

1 clauses (i) through (xi) of subparagraph (J);
2 and

3 “(J) the national incidence of child abuse
4 and neglect, including—

5 “(i) the extent to which incidents of
6 child abuse and neglect are increasing or
7 decreasing in number and severity;

8 “(ii) the incidence of substantiated
9 and unsubstantiated reported child abuse
10 and neglect cases;

11 “(iii) the number of substantiated
12 cases that result in a judicial finding of
13 child abuse or neglect or related criminal
14 court convictions;

15 “(iv) the extent to which the number
16 of unsubstantiated, unfounded and false
17 reported cases of child abuse or neglect
18 have contributed to the inability of a State
19 to respond effectively to serious cases of
20 child abuse or neglect;

21 “(v) the extent to which the lack of
22 adequate resources and the lack of ade-
23 quate education of individuals required by
24 law to report suspected cases of child
25 abuse and neglect have contributed to the

1 inability of a State to respond effectively to
2 serious cases of child abuse and neglect;

3 “(vi) the number of unsubstantiated,
4 false, or unfounded reports that have re-
5 sulted in a child being placed in substitute
6 care, and the duration of such placement;

7 “(vii) the extent to which unsubstan-
8 tiated reports return as more serious cases
9 of child abuse or neglect;

10 “(viii) the incidence and prevalence of
11 physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and
12 physical and emotional neglect in sub-
13 stitute care;

14 “(ix) the incidence and prevalence of
15 child maltreatment by a wide array of de-
16 mographic characteristics such as age, sex,
17 race, family structure, household relation-
18 ship (including the living arrangement of
19 the resident parent and family size), school
20 enrollment and education attainment, dis-
21 ability, grandparents as caregivers, labor
22 force status, work status in previous year,
23 and income in previous year;

24 “(x) the extent to which reports of
25 suspected or known instances of child

1 abuse or neglect involving a potential com-
2 bination of jurisdictions, such as intra-
3 state, interstate, Federal-State, and State-
4 Tribal, are being screened out solely on the
5 basis of the cross-jurisdictional complica-
6 tions; and

7 “(xi) the incidence and outcomes of
8 child abuse and neglect allegations re-
9 ported within the context of divorce, cus-
10 tody, or other family court proceedings,
11 and the interaction between family courts
12 and the child protective services system.”;

13 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “para-
14 graph (1)(O)” and inserting “paragraph
15 (1)(J)”;

16 (C) by amending paragraph (3) to read as
17 follows:

18 “(3) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years
20 after the date of the enactment of the Stronger
21 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, the
22 Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Com-
23 mittee on Education and Labor of the House of
24 Representatives and the Committee on Health,
25 Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate a

1 report that contains the results of the research
2 conducted under paragraph (2).

3 “(B) NATIONAL INCIDENCE.—The Sec-
4 retary shall ensure that research conducted,
5 and data collected, under paragraph (1)(J) are
6 reported in a way that will allow longitudinal
7 comparisons as well as comparisons to the na-
8 tional incidence studies conducted under this
9 title.”; and

10 (D) by striking the second paragraph (4);
11 (2) in subsection (b), by amending paragraph
12 (2) to read as follows:

13 “(2) AREAS OF EMPHASIS.—Such technical as-
14 sistance—

15 “(A) shall focus on—

16 “(i) implementing strategies that can
17 leverage existing community-based and
18 State funded resources to prevent child
19 abuse and neglect and providing education
20 for individuals involved in prevention ac-
21 tivities;

22 “(ii) reducing racial bias in child wel-
23 fare systems, including how such systems
24 interact with health, law enforcement, and
25 education systems;

1 “(iii) promoting best practices for
2 families experiencing domestic violence,
3 substance use disorder, or other complex
4 needs; and

5 “(iv) providing professional develop-
6 ment and other technical assistance to
7 child welfare agencies to improve the un-
8 derstanding of and to help address the ef-
9 fects of trauma and adverse childhood ex-
10 periences in parents and children in con-
11 tact with the child welfare system; and

12 “(B) may include the identification of—

13 “(i) various methods and procedures
14 for the investigation, assessment, and pros-
15 ecution of child physical and sexual abuse
16 cases;

17 “(ii) ways to mitigate psychological
18 trauma to the child victim;

19 “(iii) effective programs carried out
20 by the States under titles I and II; and

21 “(iv) effective approaches being uti-
22 lized to link child protective service agen-
23 cies with health care, mental health care,
24 and developmental services and early inter-
25 vention to improve forensic diagnosis and

1 health evaluations, and barriers and short-
2 ages to such linkages.”;
3 (3) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (3);
4 and
5 (4) by striking subsection (e).

6 **SEC. 105. GRANTS TO STATES, INDIAN TRIBES OR TRIBAL**
7 **ORGANIZATIONS, AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE**
8 **AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.**

9 Section 105 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
10 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) by redesignating paragraph (7) as
13 paragraph (10); and

14 (B) by striking paragraphs (1) through (6)
15 and inserting the following:

16 “(1) **PREVENTION SERVICES.**—The Secretary
17 may award grants under this subsection to entities
18 to establish or expand prevention services that re-
19 duce incidences of child maltreatment and strength-
20 en families.

21 “(2) **TRAUMATIC STRESS.**—The Secretary may
22 award grants under this subsection to entities to ad-
23 dress instances of traumatic stress in families due to
24 child abuse and neglect, especially for families with

1 complex needs or families that exhibit high levels of
2 adverse childhood experiences.

3 “(3) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—The Sec-
4 retary may award grants under this subsection to
5 entities to educate professionals and paraprofes-
6 sionals in prevention, identification, and treatment
7 of child abuse and neglect.

8 “(4) IMPROVING COORDINATION.—The Sec-
9 retary may award grants under this subsection to
10 entities to carry out activities to improve intrastate
11 coordination within the child welfare system. Such
12 activities may include—

13 “(A) aligning information technology sys-
14 tems;

15 “(B) improving information sharing re-
16 garding child and family referrals; or

17 “(C) creating collaborative voluntary part-
18 nerships among public and private agencies, the
19 State’s child protective services, local social
20 service agencies, community-based family sup-
21 port programs, State and local legal agencies,
22 developmental disability agencies, substance use
23 disorder treatment providers, health care pro-
24 viders and agencies, domestic violence preven-
25 tion programs, mental health services, schools

1 and early learning providers, religious entities,
2 and other community-based programs.

3 “(5) PRIMARY PREVENTION.—The Secretary
4 may award grants under this subsection to entities
5 to carry out or expand primary prevention programs
6 or strategies that address family or community pro-
7 tective factors.

8 “(6) NEGLECT DUE TO ECONOMIC INSECU-
9 RITY.—The Secretary may award grants under this
10 subsection to entities to carry out programs or strat-
11 egies that reduce findings of child neglect due in full
12 or in part to family economic insecurity.

13 “(7) EDUCATION OF MANDATORY REPORT-
14 ERS.—The Secretary may award grants under this
15 subsection to entities for projects that involve re-
16 search-based strategies for innovative education of
17 mandated child abuse and neglect reporters, and for
18 victims to understand mandatory reporting.

19 “(8) SENTINEL INJURIES.—The Secretary may
20 award grants under this subsection to entities to
21 identify and test effective practices to improve early
22 detection and management of injuries indicative of
23 potential abuse in infants to prevent future cases of
24 child abuse and related fatalities.

1 “(9) INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS.—The Sec-
2 retary may award grants under this subsection to
3 entities to carry out innovative programs or strate-
4 gies to coordinate the delivery of services to help re-
5 duce child abuse and neglect via partnerships among
6 health, mental health, education (including early
7 learning and care programs as appropriate), and
8 child welfare agencies and providers.”; and

9 (2) by striking subsections (b) and (c) and in-
10 serting the following:

11 “(b) GOALS AND PERFORMANCE.—The Secretary
12 shall ensure that each entity receiving a grant under this
13 section—

14 “(1) establishes quantifiable goals for the out-
15 come of the project funded with the grant; and

16 “(2) adequately measures the performance of
17 the project relative to such goals.

18 “(c) PERFORMANCE REPORT REQUIRED.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each entity that receives a
20 grant under this section shall submit to the Sec-
21 retary a performance report that includes—

22 “(A) an evaluation of the effectiveness of
23 the project funded with the grant relative to the
24 goals established for such project under sub-
25 section (b)(1); and

1 “(B) data supporting such evaluation.

2 “(2) SUBMISSION.—The report under para-
3 graph (1) shall be submitted to the Secretary at
4 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
5 formation as the Secretary may require.

6 “(d) CONTINUING GRANTS.—The Secretary may only
7 award a continuing grant to an entity under this section
8 if such entity submits a performance report required
9 under subsection (c) that demonstrates effectiveness of the
10 project funded.”.

11 **SEC. 106. GRANTS TO STATES FOR CHILD ABUSE OR NE-**
12 **GLECT PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PRO-**
13 **GRAMS.**

14 (a) DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION GRANTS.—Sub-
15 section (a) of section 106 of the Child Abuse Prevention
16 and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) is amended to read
17 as follows:

18 “(a) DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION GRANTS.—The
19 Secretary shall make grants to the States, from allotments
20 under subsection (f) for each State that applies for a grant
21 under this section, for purposes of assisting the States in
22 improving and implementing a child protective services
23 system that is family-centered, integrates community serv-
24 ices, and is capable of providing rapid response to high-
25 risk cases, by carrying out the following:

1 “(1) Conducting the intake, assessment, screen-
2 ing, and investigation of reports of child abuse or
3 neglect.

4 “(2) Ensuring that reports concerning a child’s
5 living arrangements or subsistence needs are ad-
6 dressed through services or benefits and that no
7 child is separated from such child’s parent for rea-
8 sons of poverty.

9 “(3) Creating and improving the use of multi-
10 disciplinary teams and interagency, intra-agency,
11 interstate, and intrastate protocols to enhance fair
12 investigations; and improving legal preparation and
13 representation.

14 “(4) Complying with the assurances in section
15 106(b)(2).

16 “(5) Establishing State and local networks of
17 child and family service providers that support child
18 and family well-being, which shall—

19 “(A) include child protective services, as
20 well as agencies and service providers, that ad-
21 dress family-strengthening, parenting skills,
22 child development, early childhood care and
23 learning, child advocacy, public health, mental
24 health, substance use disorder treatment, do-
25 mestic violence, developmental disabilities, hous-

1 ing, juvenile justice, elementary and secondary
2 education, and child placement; and

3 “(B) address instances of child abuse and
4 neglect by incorporating evaluations that assess
5 the development of a child, including language
6 and communication, cognitive, physical, and so-
7 cial and emotional development, the need for
8 mental health services, including trauma-related
9 services, trauma-informed care, and parental
10 needs.

11 “(6) Ensuring child protective services is ad-
12 dressing the safety of children and responding to
13 parent and family needs, which shall include—

14 “(A) family-oriented efforts that emphasize
15 case assessment and follow up casework focused
16 on child safety and child and parent well-being,
17 which may include—

18 “(i) ensuring parents and children un-
19 dergo physical and mental health assess-
20 ments, as appropriate, and ongoing devel-
21 opmental monitoring;

22 “(ii) multidisciplinary approaches to
23 assessing family needs and connecting the
24 family with services, including prevention

1 services under section 471 of the Social Se-
2 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 671);

3 “(iii) organizing a treatment team
4 with the goal of preventing child abuse and
5 neglect, and improving parent and child
6 well-being;

7 “(iv) case monitoring that supports
8 child well-being; and

9 “(v) differential response efforts; and

10 “(B) establishing and maintaining a rapid
11 response system that responds promptly to all
12 reports of child abuse or neglect, with special
13 attention to cases involving children under 3
14 years of age.

15 “(7) Educating caseworkers, community service
16 providers, attorneys, health care professionals, par-
17 ents, and others engaged in the prevention, interven-
18 tion, and treatment of child abuse and neglect,
19 which shall include education on—

20 “(A) practices that help ensure child safety
21 and well-being;

22 “(B) approaches to family-oriented preven-
23 tion, intervention, and treatment of child abuse
24 and neglect;

1 “(C) early childhood, child, and adolescent
2 development, and the impact of adverse child-
3 hood experiences on such development;

4 “(D) the relationship between child abuse
5 and domestic violence, and support for non-
6 abusing parents;

7 “(E) strategies to work with families im-
8 pacted by substance use disorder and mental
9 health issues (and, when appropriate, be coordi-
10 nated with prevention efforts funded under sec-
11 tion 471 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
12 671));

13 “(F) effective use of multiple services to
14 address family and child needs, including needs
15 resulting from trauma;

16 “(G) efforts to improve family and child
17 well-being;

18 “(H) support for child welfare workers af-
19 fected by secondary trauma; and

20 “(I) supporting families and caregivers to
21 combat and prevent unsubstantiated, un-
22 founded, or false reports, including through
23 education on the rights of families and care-
24 givers.

1 “(8) Creating or improving data systems that
2 allow for—

3 “(A) the identification of cases requiring
4 prompt responses;

5 “(B) real-time case monitoring that tracks
6 assessments, service referrals, follow-up, case
7 reviews, and progress toward parent and child
8 goals; and

9 “(C) sharing basic identifying data with
10 law enforcement, as necessary.

11 “(9) Improving the general child protective sys-
12 tem by developing, improving, and implementing
13 safety assessment tools, providing that such tools,
14 protocols and systems shall not authorize the separa-
15 tion of any child from the legal parent or guardian
16 of such child without a judicial order, except in the
17 case of imminent harm.”.

18 (b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

19 (1) STATE PLAN.—Paragraph (1) of section
20 106(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treat-
21 ment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)) is amended to read
22 as follows:

23 “(1) STATE PLAN.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to re-
2 ceive a grant under this section, a State shall
3 submit to the Secretary a State plan that—

4 “(i) specifies how the grant will be
5 used, and the State’s strategic plan, to
6 treat child abuse and neglect and enhance
7 community-based, prevention-centered ap-
8 proaches that attempt to prevent child
9 abuse and neglect while strengthening and
10 supporting families whenever possible;

11 “(ii) meets the requirements of this
12 subsection.

13 “(B) COORDINATION AND CONSULTA-
14 TION.—

15 “(i) COORDINATION.—Each State, to
16 the maximum extent practicable, shall co-
17 ordinate its State plan under this sub-
18 section with its State plan under part B of
19 title IV of the Social Security Act (42
20 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) relating to child and
21 family services and, in States electing to
22 provide services under part E of title IV of
23 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et
24 seq.) relating to foster care prevention
25 services, its State plan under such part E.

1 “(ii) CONSULTATION.—In developing
2 a State plan under this subsection, a State
3 shall consult with community-based pre-
4 vention and service agencies, parents and
5 families affected by child abuse or neglect
6 in the State, law enforcement, family court
7 judges, prosecutors who handle criminal
8 child abuse cases, and medical profes-
9 sionals engaged in the treatment of child
10 abuse and neglect.

11 “(C) DURATION AND SUBMISSION OF
12 PLAN.—Each State plan shall—

13 “(i) be submitted not less than every
14 5 years; and

15 “(ii) if necessary, revised by the State
16 to inform the Secretary of any substantive
17 changes, including—

18 “(I) any changes to State law or
19 regulations, relating to the prevention
20 of child abuse and neglect that may
21 affect the eligibility of the State under
22 this section; or

23 “(II) any changes in the State’s
24 activities, strategies, or programs
25 under this section.”.

1 (2) CONTENTS.—Paragraph (2) of section
2 106(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treat-
3 ment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)) is amended to read
4 as follows:

5 “(2) CONTENTS.—A State plan submitted
6 under paragraph (1) shall contain a description of
7 the activities that the State will carry out using
8 amounts received under the grant to achieve the ob-
9 jectives of this title, including—

10 “(A) an assurance in the form of a certifi-
11 cation by the Governor of the State that the
12 State has in effect and is enforcing a State law,
13 or has in effect and is operating a statewide
14 program, relating to child abuse and neglect
15 that includes—

16 “(i) provisions or procedures for an
17 individual to report known and suspected
18 instances of child abuse and neglect, in-
19 cluding a State law for mandatory report-
20 ing by individuals required to report such
21 instances;

22 “(ii) procedures for the immediate
23 screening, risk and safety assessment, and
24 prompt investigation of such reports of al-

1 leged abuse and neglect in order to ensure
2 the well-being and safety of children;

3 “(iii) procedures for immediate steps
4 to be taken to ensure and protect the safe-
5 ty of a victim of child abuse or neglect and
6 of any other child under the same care who
7 may also be in danger of child abuse or ne-
8 glect and ensuring their placement in a
9 safe environment;

10 “(iv) methods to preserve the con-
11 fidentiality of all records in order to pro-
12 tect the rights of the child and of the
13 child’s parents or guardians, including re-
14 quirements ensuring that reports and
15 records made and maintained pursuant to
16 the purposes of this Act shall only be made
17 available to—

18 “(I) individuals who are the sub-
19 ject of the report;

20 “(II) Federal, State, or local gov-
21 ernment entities, or any agent of such
22 entities, as described in clause (xi) of
23 this subparagraph;

24 “(III) child abuse citizen review
25 panels;

1 “(IV) child fatality review panels;

2 “(V) a grand jury or court, upon
3 a finding that information in the
4 record is necessary for the determina-
5 tion of an issue before the court or
6 grand jury; and

7 “(VI) other entities or classes of
8 individuals statutorily authorized by
9 the State to receive such information
10 pursuant to a legitimate State pur-
11 pose;

12 “(v) provisions and procedures requir-
13 ing that in every case involving a victim of
14 child abuse or neglect which results in a
15 judicial proceeding, a guardian ad litem,
16 who has received education appropriate to
17 the role, including education in early child-
18 hood, child, and adolescent development,
19 and domestic violence, and who may be an
20 attorney or a court appointed special advo-
21 cate who has received education appro-
22 priate to that role (or both), shall be ap-
23 pointed to represent the child (who, for
24 purposes of this section, shall have any age
25 limit elected by the State pursuant to sec-

1 tion 475(8)(B)(iii) of the Social Security
2 Act (42 U.S.C. 675(8)(B)(iii)) in such pro-
3 ceedings—

4 “ (I) to obtain first-hand, a clear
5 understanding of the situation and
6 needs of such child; and

7 “ (II) to make recommendations
8 to the court concerning the best inter-
9 ests of such child;

10 “ (vi) the establishment of citizen re-
11 view panels in accordance with subsection
12 (c);

13 “ (vii) provisions and procedures to re-
14 quire that a representative of the child pro-
15 tective services agency shall, at the initial
16 time of contact with the individual subject
17 to a child abuse or neglect investigation,
18 advise the individual of the complaints or
19 allegations made against the individual, in
20 a manner that is consistent with laws pro-
21 tecting the rights of the informant;

22 “ (viii) provisions, procedures, and
23 mechanisms—

24 “ (I) for the expedited termi-
25 nation of parental rights in the case

1 of any infant determined to be aban-
2 doned under State law; and

3 “(II) by which individuals who
4 disagree with an official finding of
5 child abuse or neglect can appeal such
6 finding;

7 “(ix) provisions addressing the profes-
8 sional development of representatives of
9 the child protective services system regard-
10 ing the legal duties of the representatives,
11 which may consist of various methods of
12 informing such representatives of such du-
13 ties (including providing such education in
14 different languages if necessary), in order
15 to protect the legal rights and safety of
16 children and their parents and caregivers
17 from the initial time of contact during in-
18 vestigation through treatment;

19 “(x) provisions for immunity from
20 civil or criminal liability under State and
21 local laws and regulations for individuals
22 making good faith reports of suspected or
23 known instances of child abuse or neglect,
24 or who otherwise provide information or
25 assistance, including medical evaluations or

1 consultations, in connection with a report,
2 investigation, or legal intervention pursu-
3 ant to a good faith report of child abuse or
4 neglect;

5 “(xi) provisions to require the State to
6 disclose confidential information to any
7 Federal, State, or local government entity,
8 or any agent of such entity, that has a
9 need for such information in order to carry
10 out its responsibilities under law to protect
11 children from child abuse and neglect;

12 “(xii) provisions requiring, and proce-
13 dures in place that facilitate the prompt
14 expungement of any records that are ac-
15 cessible to the general public or are used
16 for purposes of employment or other back-
17 ground checks in cases determined to be
18 unsubstantiated or false, except that noth-
19 ing in this section shall prevent State child
20 protective services agencies from keeping
21 information on unsubstantiated reports in
22 their casework files to assist in future risk
23 and safety assessment;

24 “(xiii) provisions and procedures for
25 requiring criminal background record

1 checks that meet the requirements of sec-
2 tion 471(a)(20) of the Social Security Act
3 (42 U.S.C. 671(a)(20)) for prospective fos-
4 ter and adoptive parents and other adult
5 relatives and non- relatives residing in the
6 household;

7 “(xiv) provisions for systems of tech-
8 nology that support the State child protec-
9 tive services system and track reports of
10 child abuse and neglect from intake
11 through final disposition;

12 “(xv) provisions and procedures re-
13 quiring identification and assessment of all
14 reports involving children known or sus-
15 pected to be victims of sex trafficking (as
16 defined in section 103(12) of the Traf-
17 ficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22
18 U.S.C. 7102 (12));

19 “(xvi) provisions, procedures, and
20 mechanisms that assure that the State
21 does not require reunification of a sur-
22 viving child with a parent who has been
23 found by a court of competent jurisdic-
24 tion—

1 “(I) to have committed murder
2 (which would have been an offense
3 under section 1111(a) of title 18,
4 United States Code, if the offense had
5 occurred in the special maritime or
6 territorial jurisdiction of the United
7 States) of another child of such par-
8 ent;

9 “(II) to have committed vol-
10 untary manslaughter (which would
11 have been an offense under section
12 1112(a) of title 18, United States
13 Code, if the offense had occurred in
14 the special maritime or territorial ju-
15 risdiction of the United States) of an-
16 other child of such parent;

17 “(III) to have aided or abetted,
18 attempted, conspired, or solicited to
19 commit such murder or voluntary
20 manslaughter;

21 “(IV) to have committed a felony
22 assault that results in the serious bod-
23 ily injury to the surviving child or an-
24 other child of such parent;

1 “(V) to have committed sexual
2 abuse against the surviving child or
3 another child of such parent; or

4 “(VI) to be required to register
5 with a sex offender registry under sec-
6 tion 113(a) of the Adam Walsh Child
7 Protection and Safety Act of 2006
8 (42 U.S.C. 16913(a)); and

9 “(xvii) an assurance that, upon the
10 implementation by the State of the provi-
11 sions, procedures, and mechanisms under
12 clause (xvi), conviction of any one of the
13 felonies listed in clause (xvi) constitute
14 grounds under State law for the termi-
15 nation of parental rights of the convicted
16 parent as to the surviving children (al-
17 though case-by-case determinations of
18 whether or not to seek termination of pa-
19 rental rights shall be within the sole discre-
20 tion of the State);

21 “(B) an assurance that the State has in
22 place procedures for responding to the reporting
23 of medical neglect (including instances of with-
24 holding of medically indicated treatment from
25 infants with disabilities who have life-threat-

1 ening conditions), procedures or programs, or
2 both (within the State child protective services
3 system), to provide for—

4 “(i) coordination and consultation
5 with individuals designated by and within
6 appropriate health-care facilities;

7 “(ii) prompt notification by individ-
8 uals designated by and within appropriate
9 health-care facilities of cases of suspected
10 medical neglect (including instances of
11 withholding of medically indicated treat-
12 ment from infants with disabilities who
13 have life-threatening conditions); and

14 “(iii) authority, under State law, for
15 the State child protective services system
16 to pursue any legal remedies, including the
17 authority to initiate legal proceedings in a
18 court of competent jurisdiction, as may be
19 necessary to prevent the withholding of
20 medically indicated treatment from infants
21 with disabilities who have life-threatening
22 conditions;

23 “(C) an assurance or certification that pro-
24 grams and education conducted under this title
25 address the unique needs of unaccompanied

1 homeless youth, including access to enrollment
2 and support services and that such youth are
3 eligible for under parts B and E of title IV of
4 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq.,
5 670 et seq.) and meet the requirements of the
6 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
7 U.S.C. 11301 et seq.);

8 “(D) a description of—
9 “(i) policies and procedures (including
10 appropriate referrals to child welfare serv-
11 ice systems and for other appropriate serv-
12 ices (including home visiting services and
13 mutual support and parent partner pro-
14 grams)) to address the needs of infants
15 born with and identified as being affected
16 by substance use or withdrawal symptoms
17 resulting from prenatal drug exposure, or
18 a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, includ-
19 ing a requirement that health care pro-
20 viders involved in the delivery or care of
21 such infants notify the child welfare serv-
22 ices system of the occurrence of such con-
23 dition in such infants, except that such no-
24 tification shall not be construed to—

1 “(I) establish a definition under
2 Federal law of what constitutes child
3 abuse or neglect; or

4 “(II) require prosecution for any
5 illegal action;

6 “(ii) the development of a plan of safe
7 care for the infant born and identified as
8 being affected by substance use or with-
9 drawal symptoms, or a Fetal Alcohol Spec-
10 trum Disorder to ensure the safety and
11 well-being of such infant following release
12 from the care of health care providers, in-
13 cluding through—

14 “(I) addressing the health and
15 substance use disorder treatment
16 needs of the infant and affected fam-
17 ily or caregiver; and

18 “(II) the development and imple-
19 mentation by the State of monitoring
20 systems regarding the implementation
21 of such plans to determine whether
22 and in what manner local entities are
23 providing, in accordance with State
24 requirements, referrals to and delivery

1 of appropriate services for the infant
2 and affected family or caregiver;

3 “(iii) policies and procedures to make
4 available to the public on the State website
5 the data, findings, and information about
6 all cases of child abuse or neglect resulting
7 in a child fatality or near fatality, includ-
8 ing a description of—

9 “(I) how the State will not create
10 an exception to such public disclosure,
11 except in a case in which—

12 “(aa) the State would like to
13 delay public release of case-spe-
14 cific findings or information (in-
15 cluding any previous reports of
16 domestic violence and subsequent
17 actions taken to assess and ad-
18 dress such reports) while a crimi-
19 nal investigation or prosecution
20 of such a fatality or near fatality
21 is pending;

22 “(bb) the State is protecting
23 the identity of a reporter of child
24 abuse or neglect; or

1 “(cc) the State is with-
2 holding identifying information of
3 members of the victim’s family
4 who are not perpetrators of the
5 fatality or near fatality; and

6 “(II) how the State will ensure
7 that in providing the public disclosure
8 required under this clause, the State
9 will include—

10 “(aa) the cause and cir-
11 cumstances of the fatality or near
12 fatality;

13 “(bb) the age and gender of
14 the child; and

15 “(cc) any previous reports of
16 child abuse or neglect investiga-
17 tions that are relevant to the
18 child abuse or neglect that led to
19 the fatality or near fatality;

20 “(iv) how the State will use data col-
21 lected on child abuse or neglect to prevent
22 child fatalities and near fatalities;

23 “(v) how the State will implement ef-
24 forts to prevent child fatalities and near
25 fatalities;

1 “(vi) the cooperation of State law en-
2 forcement officials, court of competent ju-
3 risdiction, and appropriate State agencies
4 providing human services in the investiga-
5 tion, assessment, prosecution, and treat-
6 ment of child abuse and neglect;

7 “(vii) the steps the State will take to
8 improve the professional development, re-
9 tention, and supervision of caseworkers
10 and how the State will measure the effec-
11 tiveness of such efforts;

12 “(viii) the State’s plan to ensure each
13 child under the age of 3 who is involved in
14 a substantiated case of child abuse or ne-
15 glect will be referred to the State’s child
16 find system under section 635(a)(5) of the
17 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
18 (20 U.S.C. 1435(a)(5)) in order to deter-
19 mine if the child is an infant or toddler
20 with a disability (as defined in section
21 632(5) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1432(5)));

22 “(ix) the State’s plan to improve, as
23 part of a comprehensive State strategy led
24 by law enforcement, professional develop-
25 ment for child protective services workers

1 and their appropriate role in identifying,
2 assessing, and providing comprehensive
3 services for children who are sex traf-
4 ficking victims, in coordination with law
5 enforcement, juvenile justice agencies, run-
6 away and homeless youth shelters, and
7 health, mental health, and other social
8 service agencies and providers;

9 “(x) the services to be provided under
10 the grant to individuals, families, or com-
11 munities, either directly or through refer-
12 rals, aimed at preventing the occurrence of
13 child abuse and neglect;

14 “(xi) the State’s efforts to ensure pro-
15 fessionals who are required to report sus-
16 pected cases of child abuse and neglect are
17 aware of their responsibilities under sub-
18 paragraph (A)(i) and receive professional
19 development relating to performing such
20 responsibilities that is specific to their pro-
21 fession and workplace;

22 “(xii) policies and procedures encour-
23 aging the appropriate involvement of fami-
24 lies in decisionmaking pertaining to chil-

1 dren who experienced child abuse or ne-
2 glect;

3 “(xiii) the State’s efforts to improve
4 appropriate collaboration among child pro-
5 tective services agencies, domestic violence
6 services agencies, substance use disorder
7 treatment agencies, and other agencies in
8 investigations, interventions, and the deliv-
9 ery of services and treatment provided to
10 children and families affected by child
11 abuse or neglect, including children ex-
12 posed to domestic violence, where appro-
13 priate;

14 “(xiv) policies and procedures regard-
15 ing the use of differential response, as ap-
16 plicable, to improve outcomes for children;
17 and

18 “(xv) the State’s efforts to reduce ra-
19 cial bias in its child protective services sys-
20 tem.”.

21 (3) LIMITATIONS.—Paragraph (3) of section
22 106(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treat-
23 ment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)) is amended—

24 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking
25 “LIMITATION” and inserting “LIMITATIONS”;

1 (B) by striking “With regard to clauses
2 (vi) and (vii) of paragraph (2)(B),” and insert-
3 ing the following:

4 “(A) DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN IDENTI-
5 FYING INFORMATION.—With regard to subpara-
6 graphs (A)(iv) and (D)(iii) of paragraph (2),”;

7 (C) by striking the period at the end and
8 inserting “; and”; and

9 (D) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(B) PUBLIC ACCESS TO COURT PRO-
11 CEEDINGS.—Nothing in paragraph (2) shall be
12 construed to limit the State’s flexibility to de-
13 termine State policies relating to public access
14 to court proceedings to determine child abuse
15 and neglect, except that such policies shall, at
16 a minimum, ensure the safety and well-being of
17 the child, parents, and families.”.

18 (4) DEFINITIONS.—Paragraph (4) of section
19 106(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treat-
20 ment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)) is amended—

21 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking
22 “DEFINITIONS” and inserting “DEFINITION”;

23 (B) by striking “this subsection” and all
24 that follows through “means an act” and in-

1 serting the following: “this subsection, the term
2 ‘near fatality’ means an act”;

3 (C) by striking “; and” and inserting a pe-
4 riod; and

5 (D) by striking subparagraph (B).

6 (c) CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.—Section 106(c) of the
7 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.
8 5106a(c)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “EXCEP-
10 TIONS.” and all that follows through “A State may”
11 and inserting “EXCEPTION.—A State may”;

12 (2) in paragraph (4)(A)—

13 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by
14 striking “and where appropriate, specific
15 cases,”; and

16 (B) in clause (iii)((I), by striking “foster
17 care and adoption programs” and inserting
18 “foster care, prevention, and permanency pro-
19 grams”; and

20 (3) by amending the first sentence of paragraph
21 (6) to read as follows: “Each panel established
22 under paragraph (1) shall prepare and make avail-
23 able to the State and the public, on an annual basis,
24 a report containing a summary of the activities of
25 the panel, the criteria used for determining which

1 activities the panel engaged in, and recommenda-
2 tions or observations to improve the child protective
3 services system at the State and local levels, and the
4 data upon which these recommendations or observa-
5 tions are based.”.

6 (d) ANNUAL STATE DATA REPORTS.—Section
7 106(d) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 5106a(d)) is amended—

9 (1) by amending paragraph (13) to read as fol-
10 lows:

11 “(13) The annual report containing the sum-
12 mary of the activities and recommendations of the
13 citizen review panels of the State required by sub-
14 section (c)(6), and the actions taken by the State as
15 a result of such recommendations.”;

16 (2) in paragraph (15), by striking “subsection
17 (b)(2)(B)(ii)” and inserting “subsection
18 (b)(2)(D)(i)”;

19 (3) in paragraph (16), by striking “subsection
20 (b)(2)(B)(xxi)” and inserting “subsection
21 (b)(2)(D)(viii)”;

22 (4) in paragraph (17), by striking “subsection
23 (b)(2)(B)(xxiv)” and inserting “subsection
24 (b)(2)(A)(xv)”;

25 (5) in paragraph (18)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-
2 section (b)(2)(B)(ii)” and inserting “subsection
3 (b)(2)(D)(i)”;

4 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “sub-
5 section (b)(2)(B)(iii)” and inserting “subsection
6 (b)(2)(D)(ii)”;

7 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “sub-
8 section (b)(2)(B)(iii)” and inserting “subsection
9 (b)(2)(D)(ii)”;

10 (6) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(19) The number of child fatalities and near
12 fatalities from maltreatment and related information
13 in accordance with the uniform standards estab-
14 lished under section 103(d).”.

15 (e) ALLOTMENTS.—Section 106(f) of the Child Abuse
16 Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(f)) is
17 amended by adding at the end the following:

18 “(6) LIMITATION.—For any fiscal year for
19 which the amount allotted to a State or territory
20 under this subsection exceeds the amount allotted to
21 the State or territory under such subsection for fis-
22 cal year 2019, the State or territory may use not
23 more than 2 percent of such excess amount for ad-
24 ministrative expenses.”.

1 **SEC. 107. MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS.**

2 Section 108 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
3 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106d) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (b), inserting “Indian tribes,
5 and tribal organizations,” after “States,”;

6 (2) by redesignating subsections (c) through (e)
7 as subsections (d) through (f), respectively; and

8 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(c) PROTECTING AGAINST SYSTEMIC CHILD SEX-
11 UAL ABUSE.—

12 “(1) REPORTING AND TASK FORCE.—Not later
13 than 24 months after the date of the enactment of
14 the Stronger Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment
15 Act, each State task force established under section
16 107(c) and expanded as described in paragraph (2)
17 shall study and make recommendations on the fol-
18 lowing, with a focus on preventing systemic child
19 sexual abuse:

20 “(A) How to detect systemic child sexual
21 abuse that occurs in an organization.

22 “(B) How to prevent child sexual abuse
23 and systemic child sexual abuse from occurring
24 in organizations, which shall include rec-
25 ommendations to improve—

1 “(i) practices and policies for the edu-
2 cation of parents, caregivers, and victims,
3 and age appropriate education of children,
4 about risk factors or signs of potential
5 child sexual abuse; and

6 “(ii) the efficacy of applicable State
7 laws and the role such laws play in deter-
8 ring or preventing incidences of child sex-
9 ual abuse.

10 “(C) The feasibility of making available
11 the disposition of a perpetrator within an orga-
12 nization to—

13 “(i) the child alleging sexual abuse or
14 the child’s family; or

15 “(ii) an adult who was a child at the
16 time of the sexual abuse claim in question
17 or the adult’s family.

18 “(2) TASK FORCE COMPOSITION.—For purposes
19 of this subsection, a State task force shall include—

20 “(A) the members of the State task force
21 described in section 107(c) for the State; and

22 “(B) the following:

23 “(i) Family court judges.

24 “(ii) Individuals from religious organi-
25 zations.

1 “(iii) Individuals from youth-serving
2 organizations, including youth athletics or-
3 ganizations.

4 “(3) REPORTING ON RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not
5 later than 6 months after a State task force makes
6 recommendations under paragraph (1), the State
7 maintaining such State task force shall—

8 “(A) make public the recommendations of
9 such report;

10 “(B) report to the Secretary on the status
11 of adopting such recommendations; and

12 “(C) in a case in which the State declines
13 to adopt a particular recommendation, make
14 public the explanation for such declination.

15 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-
16 section—

17 “(A) the terms ‘child sexual abuse’ and
18 ‘sexual abuse’ shall not be limited to an act or
19 a failure to act on the part of a parent or care-
20 taker;

21 “(B) the term ‘organization’ means any
22 entity that serves children; and

23 “(C) the term ‘systemic child sexual abuse’
24 means—

1 “(i) a pattern of informal or formal
2 policy or de facto policy to not follow State
3 and local requirements to report instances
4 of child sexual abuse in violation of State
5 and local mandatory reporting laws or pol-
6 icy; or

7 “(ii) a pattern of assisting individual
8 perpetrators in maintaining their careers
9 despite substantiated evidence of child sex-
10 ual abuse.”.

11 **SEC. 108. REPORTS.**

12 (a) SCALING EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENT OF
13 CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—Section 110 of the Child
14 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106f)
15 is amended to read as follows:

16 **“SEC. 110. STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO SCALING EVI-
17 DENCE-BASED TREATMENT OF CHILD ABUSE
18 AND NEGLECT.**

19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a
20 study that examines challenges to, and best practices for,
21 the scalability of treatments that reduce the trauma re-
22 sulting from child abuse and neglect and reduce the risk
23 of revictimization, such as those allowable under sections
24 105 and 106.

1 “(b) CONTENT OF STUDY.—The study described in
2 subsection (a) shall be completed in a manner that con-
3 sider the variability among treatment programs and
4 among populations vulnerable to child abuse and neglect.
5 The study shall include, at minimum:

6 “(1) A detailed synthesis of the existing re-
7 search literature examining barriers and challenges
8 to, and best practices for the scalability of child wel-
9 fare programs and services as well as programs and
10 services for vulnerable children and families in re-
11 lated fields, including healthcare and education.

12 “(2) Data describing state and local providers’
13 experiences with scaling treatments that reduce the
14 trauma resulting from child abuse and neglect and
15 reduce the risk of revictimization.

16 “(3) Consultation with experts in child welfare,
17 healthcare, and education.

18 “(c) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date
19 of the enactment of the Stronger Child Abuse Prevention
20 and Treatment Act, the Secretary shall submit to the
21 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of
22 the Senate and the Committee on Education and Labor
23 of the House of Representatives a report that contains the
24 results of the study conducted under subsection (a), in-
25 cluding recommendations for best practices for scaling

1 treatments that reduce the trauma resulting from child
2 abuse and neglect and reduce the risk of revictimization.”.

3 (b) REPORT ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN IN-
4 DIAN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
6 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comp-
7 troller General, in consultation with the Indian
8 tribes from each of the 12 regions of the Bureau of
9 Indian Affairs, shall study child abuse and neglect in
10 Indian Tribal communities for the purpose of identi-
11 fying vital information and making recommendations
12 concerning issues relating to child abuse and neglect
13 in such communities, and submit to the Committee
14 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the
15 Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the
16 Committee on Education and Labor and the Com-
17 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
18 resentatives a report on such study, which shall in-
19 clude—

20 (A) the number of Indian tribes providing
21 primary child abuse and neglect prevention ac-
22 tivities;

23 (B) the number of Indian tribes providing
24 secondary child abuse and neglect prevention
25 activities;

1 (C) promising practices of Indian tribes
2 with respect to child abuse and neglect preven-
3 tion that are culturally-based or culturally-
4 adapted;

5 (D) information and recommendations on
6 how such culturally-based or culturally-adapted
7 child abuse and neglect prevention activities
8 could become evidence-based;

9 (E) the number of Indian tribes that have
10 accessed Federal child abuse and neglect pre-
11 vention programs;

12 (F) child abuse and neglect prevention ac-
13 tivities that Indian tribes provide using State
14 funds;

15 (G) child abuse and neglect prevention ac-
16 tivities that Indian tribes provide using Tribal
17 funds;

18 (H) Tribal access to State children's trust
19 fund resources, as described in section 202 of
20 the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
21 (42 U.S.C. 5116a);

22 (I) how a children's trust fund model could
23 be used to support prevention efforts regarding
24 child abuse and neglect of American Indian and
25 Alaska Native children;

1 (J) Federal agency technical assistance ef-
2 forts to address child abuse and neglect preven-
3 tion and treatment of American Indian and
4 Alaska Native children;

5 (K) Federal agency cross-system collabora-
6 tion to address child abuse and neglect preven-
7 tion and treatment of American Indian and
8 Alaska Native children;

9 (L) Tribal access to child abuse and ne-
10 glect prevention research and demonstration
11 grants under the Child Abuse Prevention and
12 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.); and

13 (M) an examination of child abuse and ne-
14 glect data systems to identify what Tribal data
15 is being submitted, barriers to submitting data,
16 and recommendations on improving the collec-
17 tion of data from Indian Tribes.

18 (2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

19 (A) the term “Alaska Native” has the
20 meaning given the term in section 111 of the
21 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42
22 U.S.C. 5106g); and

23 (B) the terms “child abuse and neglect”
24 and “Indian tribe” have the meaning given the

1 terms in section 3 of the Child Abuse Preven-
2 tion and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note).

3 **SEC. 109. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 Section 112(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and
5 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1)—

7 (A) by striking “to carry out” through
8 “fiscal year 2010” and inserting “to carry out
9 this title \$270,000,000 for fiscal year 2020”;
10 and

11 (B) by striking “2011 through 2015” and
12 inserting “2021 through 2025”; and

13 (2) by striking paragraph (2)(A) and inserting
14 the following:

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts ap-
16 propriated for a fiscal year under paragraph
17 (1), the Secretary shall make available 30 per-
18 cent of such amounts, or \$100,000,000, which-
19 ever is less, to fund discretionary activities
20 under this title.”.

21 **SEC. 110. ELECTRONIC INTERSTATE DATA EXCHANGE SYS-**
22 **TEM.**

23 Title I of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment
24 Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) is amended by adding at
25 the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 115. ELECTRONIC INTERSTATE DATA EXCHANGE SYS-**
2 **TEM.**

3 “(a) INTERSTATE DATA EXCHANGE SYSTEM.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health
5 and Human Services shall consider the recommenda-
6 tions included in the reports required under para-
7 graph (8)(A) and subsection (b)(2) in developing an
8 electronic interstate data exchange system that al-
9 lows State entities responsible under State law for
10 maintaining child abuse and neglect registries to
11 communicate information across State lines.

12 “(2) STANDARDS.—In developing the electronic
13 interstate data exchange system under paragraph
14 (1), the Secretary shall—

15 “(A) use interoperable standards developed
16 and maintained by intergovernmental partner-
17 ships, such as the National Information Ex-
18 change Model;

19 “(B) develop policies and governance
20 standards that—

21 “(i) ensure consistency in types of in-
22 formation shared and not shared; and

23 “(ii) specify circumstances under
24 which data should be shared through the
25 interstate data exchange system; and

1 “(C) ensure that all standards and policies
2 adhere to the privacy, security, and civil rights
3 laws of each State and Federal law.

4 “(3) LIMITATION ON USE OF ELECTRONIC
5 INTERSTATE DATA EXCHANGE SYSTEM.—The elec-
6 tronic interstate data exchange system may only be
7 used for purposes relating to child safety.

8 “(4) PILOT PROGRAM.—

9 “(A) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 6
10 months after the date of the enactment of this
11 section, the Secretary of Health and Human
12 Services shall begin implementation of a pilot
13 program to generate recommendations for the
14 full integration of the electronic interstate data
15 exchange system. Such pilot program shall in-
16 clude not less than 10 States and not more
17 than 15 States.

18 “(B) COMPLETION.—Not later than 30
19 months after the date of the enactment of this
20 section, the Secretary of Health and Human
21 Services shall complete the pilot program de-
22 scribed in subparagraph (A).

23 “(5) INTEGRATION.—The Secretary of Health
24 and Human Services may assist States in the inte-
25 gration of this system into the infrastructure of each

1 State using funds appropriated under this sub-
2 section.

3 “(6) PARTICIPATION.—As a condition on eligi-
4 bility for receipt of funds under section 106, each
5 State shall—

6 “(A) participate in the electronic interstate
7 data exchange system to the fullest extent pos-
8 sible in accordance with State law (as deter-
9 mined by the Secretary of Health and Human
10 Services) not later than December 31, 2027;
11 and

12 “(B) prior to the participation described in
13 subparagraph (A), provide to the Secretary of
14 Health and Human Services an assurance that
15 the child abuse and neglect registry of such
16 State provides procedural due process protec-
17 tions with respect to including individuals on
18 such registry.

19 “(7) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary of Health
20 and Human Services may not access or store data
21 from the electronic interstate data exchange system,
22 unless the State to which such data pertains volun-
23 tarily shares such data with the Secretary of Health
24 and Human Services.

1 “(8) REPORTS.—The Secretary of Health and
2 Human Services shall prepare and submit to Con-
3 gress—

4 “(A) not later than 3 years after the date
5 of the enactment of this section, a report on the
6 recommendations from the pilot program de-
7 scribed in paragraph (4); and

8 “(B) not later than January 31, 2025, a
9 report on the progress made in implementing
10 this subsection.

11 “(9) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of
12 the funds appropriated under section 112 for a fiscal
13 year—

14 “(A) for each of fiscal years 2020 and
15 2021, \$2,000,000 shall be reserved to carry out
16 this section; and

17 “(B) for each of fiscal years 2022 through
18 2025, \$1,000,000 shall be reserved to carry out
19 this section.

20 “(b) WORKING GROUP.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.— Not later than 60 days
22 after the date of the enactment of this section, the
23 Secretary of Health and Human Services shall con-
24 vene a working group to study and make rec-
25 ommendations on the following:

1 “(A) The feasibility of making publicly
2 available on the website of each State defini-
3 tions and standards of substantiated child
4 abuse and neglect for the State.

5 “(B) Whether background check require-
6 ments under this Act, the Child Care and De-
7 velopment Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
8 9858 et seq.), and part E of title IV of the So-
9 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.) are
10 complementary or if there are discrepancies
11 that need to be addressed.

12 “(C) How to improve communication be-
13 tween and across States, including through the
14 use of technology and the use of the electronic
15 interstate data exchange system established
16 under subsection (a), to allow for more accurate
17 and efficient exchange of child abuse and ne-
18 glect records.

19 “(D) How to reduce barriers and establish
20 best practices for the State to provide timely re-
21 sponses to requests from other States for infor-
22 mation contained in the State’s child abuse and
23 neglect registry through the electronic inter-
24 state data exchange system established under
25 subsection (a).

1 “(2) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after
2 the date of the enactment of this section, the work-
3 ing group convened under paragraph (1) shall sub-
4 mit a report containing its recommendations to the
5 Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Com-
6 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
7 of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and
8 Labor of the House of Representatives.

9 “(3) CONSTRUCTION.—There shall be no re-
10 quirement for any State to adopt the recommenda-
11 tions of the working group, nor shall the Secretary
12 of Health and Human Services incentivize or coerce
13 any State to adopt any such recommendation.”.

14 **SEC. 111. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

15 (a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.— The Child Abuse
16 Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.),
17 as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is fur-
18 ther amended—

19 (1) by striking “Committee on Education and
20 the Workforce” each place it appears and inserting
21 “Committee on Education and Labor”;

22 (2) in section 103(c)(1)(F), by striking “abused
23 and neglected children” and inserting “victims of
24 child abuse or neglect”; and

1 (3) in section 107(f), by striking “(42 U.S.C.
2 10603a)” and inserting “(34 U.S.C. 20104)”.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

4 (1) SECTION 103.—Section 103(b)(5) (42
5 U.S.C. 5104(b)(5)) is amended by striking “section
6 106(b)(2)(B)(iii)” and inserting “section
7 106(b)(2)(D)(ii)”.

8 (2) SECTION 105.—Section 105(a)(10) (25
9 U.S.C. 5106(a)(10) (as redesignated by section
10 105(1)(A) of this Act) is amended—

11 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sec-
12 tion 106(b)(2)(B)(iii)” and inserting “section
13 106(b)(2)(D)(ii)”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

15 (i) in clause (i)(II), by striking “sec-
16 tion 106(b)(2)(B)(iii)” and inserting “sec-
17 tion 106(b)(2)(D)(ii)”;

18 (ii) in clause (i)(IV), by striking “sec-
19 tion 106(b)(2)(B)(iii)(II)” and inserting
20 “section 106(b)(2)(D)(ii)(II)”;

21 (iii) in clause (ii), by striking “clauses
22 (ii) and (iii) of section 106(b)(2)(B)” and
23 inserting “clauses (i) and (ii) of section
24 106(b)(2)(D)”;

25 (C) in subparagraph (D)—

1 (i) in clause (i)(I), by striking “sec-
2 tion 106(b)(2)(B)(iii)(I)” and inserting
3 “section 106(b)(2)(D)(ii)(I)”;

4 (ii) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “sec-
5 tion 106(b)(2)(B)(ii)” and inserting “sec-
6 tion 106(b)(2)(D)(i)”;

7 (iii) in clause (ii)(II), by striking “sec-
8 tion 106(b)(2)(B)(iii)(I)” and inserting
9 “section 106(b)(2)(D)(ii)(I)”;

10 (iv) in clause (iii)(I), by striking “sec-
11 tion 106(b)(2)(B)(i)” and inserting “sec-
12 tion 106(b)(2)(A)(i)”;

13 (v) in clause (iii)(IV), by striking
14 “section 106(b)(2)(B)(iii)” and inserting
15 “section 106(b)(2)(D)(ii)”;

16 (vi) in clause (v), by striking “section
17 106(b)(2)(B)(iii)” and inserting “section
18 106(b)(2)(D)(ii)”;

19 (D) in subparagraph (E), by striking “sec-
20 tion 106(b)(2)(B)(ii)” and inserting “section
21 106(b)(2)(D)(i)”;

22 (E) in subparagraph (G)(ii), by striking
23 “clauses (ii) and (iii) of section 106(b)(2)(B)”
24 and inserting “clauses (i) and (ii) of section
25 106(b)(2)(D)”.

1 (3) SECTION 114.—Section 114(1)(B) (42
2 U.S.C. 5108(1)(B)) is amended by striking “clauses
3 (ii) and (iii) of section 106(b)(2)(B)” and inserting
4 “clauses (i) and (ii) of section 106(b)(2)(D)”.

5 (4) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of con-
6 tents in section 1(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention
7 and Treatment Act is amended—

8 (A) by striking the items relating to sec-
9 tions 2 and 102; and

10 (B) by inserting after the item relating to
11 section 114 the following:

“Sec. 115. Electronic interstate data exchange system.”.

12 **TITLE II—COMMUNITY-BASED**
13 **GRANTS FOR THE PREVEN-**
14 **TION OF CHILD ABUSE AND**
15 **NEGLECT**

16 **SEC. 201. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY.**

17 Subsections (a) and (b) of section 201 of the Child
18 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116)
19 are amended to read as follows:

20 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this title are—

21 “(1) to establish and maintain support for com-
22 munity-based family strengthening services and
23 statewide systems-building approaches to the extent
24 practicable, to ensure the development, operation,
25 expansion, coordination, and evaluation of quality

1 services, initiatives, programs, and activities to pre-
2 vent child abuse and neglect; and

3 “(2) to promote improved access for diverse
4 populations with demonstrated need, including low-
5 income families, racial and ethnic minorities, fami-
6 lies with children or caregivers with disabilities, un-
7 derserved communities, and rural communities, to
8 family strengthening services in order to more effec-
9 tively prevent child abuse and neglect.

10 “(b) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall make grants
11 under this title on a formula basis to the entity designated
12 by the State as the lead entity (referred to in this title
13 as the ‘lead entity’) under section 202(1) for the following
14 purposes:

15 “(1) Providing programs, activities, and initia-
16 tives to help families build protective factors linked
17 to the prevention of child abuse and neglect, such as
18 knowledge of parenting and child development, pa-
19 rental resilience, social connections, time-limited and
20 need-based concrete support, and social and emo-
21 tional development of children, that—

22 “(A) are accessible to diverse populations,
23 effective, and culturally appropriate;

24 “(B) build upon existing strengths;

25 “(C) offer assistance to families;

1 “(D) provide early, comprehensive support
2 for parents;

3 “(E) promote the development of healthy
4 familial relationships and parenting skills, espe-
5 cially in young parents and parents with very
6 young children;

7 “(F) increase family stability;

8 “(G) improve family access to formal and
9 informal community-based resources, including
10 health and mental health services, time-limited
11 and need-based concrete supports, and services
12 and supports to meet the needs of families with
13 children or caregivers with disabilities; and

14 “(H) support the additional needs of fami-
15 lies with children with disabilities, including
16 through respite care.

17 “(2) Fostering the development of a continuum
18 of preventive services to strengthen families through
19 State- and community-based collaborations and both
20 public and private partnerships.

21 “(3) Financing the start-up, maintenance, ex-
22 pansion, or redesign of core services described in
23 section 205, where communities have identified gaps
24 and decided to prioritize the establishment of such

1 services, to the extent practicable given funding lev-
2 els and community priorities.

3 “(4) Maximizing funding through leveraging
4 Federal, State, local, public, and private funds to
5 carry out the purposes of this title.

6 “(5) Developing or enhancing statewide and
7 local networks to operate, expand, or enhance com-
8 munity-based family strengthening services, initia-
9 tives, and activities that promote child, parent, fam-
10 ily, and community health and well-being and pre-
11 vent child abuse and neglect.

12 “(6) Promoting the development of, and coordi-
13 nation with, existing community coalitions of net-
14 works of family strengthening services that utilize
15 culturally responsive providers in order to enhance
16 child, family, and community well-being and prevent
17 child abuse and neglect in all families.

18 “(7) Financing public information activities
19 that focus on parent and child development and
20 child abuse and neglect prevention.

21 “(8) To the extent practicable—

22 “(A) promoting the development and im-
23 plementation of a statewide systems-building
24 strategy to address the unmet needs identified
25 in the inventory described in section 204(3), in-

1 including the participation of public and private
2 stakeholders, community-based organizations,
3 legislators, parents and other relevant stake-
4 holders, and State agencies, including the child
5 welfare agency, the public health agency, hous-
6 ing agency, and the State education agency, to
7 scale evidence-based, evidence-informed, and
8 promising programs that expand access to fam-
9 ily strengthening services and reduce the num-
10 bers of children entering the foster care system;

11 “(B) developing comprehensive outreach
12 strategies to engage families with various risk
13 factors, including families who have experienced
14 trauma or domestic violence, parents with sub-
15 stance use disorder, and families with children
16 or caregivers with disabilities; and

17 “(C) providing capacity-building supports
18 to local programs to improve desired outcomes
19 for children and families, such as—

20 “(i) technical assistance, including
21 support for local programs to collect out-
22 come data that helps improve service deliv-
23 ery;

24 “(ii) professional development; and

1 “(iii) peer support networks, including
2 through developing a problem-solving
3 forum.”.

4 **SEC. 202. ELIGIBILITY.**

5 Section 202 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
6 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116a) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1)—

8 (A) by striking subparagraph (A) and in-
9 serting the following:

10 “(A) the Governor of the State has designated
11 a lead entity to administer funds under this title for
12 the purposes identified under the authority of this
13 title, including to develop, implement, operate, en-
14 hance, or expand community-based family strength-
15 ening services designed to prevent child abuse and
16 neglect;”;

17 (B) by striking subparagraph (D) and in-
18 serting the following:

19 “(D) the Governor of the State has given con-
20 sideration to the capacity and expertise of all entities
21 requesting to be designated under subparagraph
22 (A);”;

23 (2) in paragraph (3)—

24 (A) by striking subparagraph (A) and in-
25 serting the following:

1 “(A) has demonstrated ongoing meaningful
2 partnerships with parents in the development,
3 operation, and oversight of State- and commu-
4 nity-based family strengthening services de-
5 signed to prevent child abuse and neglect;”;

6 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
7 “community-based and prevention-focused pro-
8 grams and activities designed to strengthen and
9 support families” and inserting “community-
10 based family strengthening services designed”;

11 (C) by striking subparagraph (C) and in-
12 serting the following:

13 “(C) has the capacity to provide oper-
14 ational support (both financial and pro-
15 grammatic), professional development, technical
16 assistance, and evaluation assistance, to com-
17 munity-based organizations;”;

18 (D) by striking subparagraph (D) and in-
19 serting the following:

20 “(D) will integrate efforts with individuals
21 and organizations experienced in working in
22 partnership with low-income families, racial and
23 ethnic minorities, families with children or care-
24 givers with disabilities, sexual and gender mi-
25 nority youth, victims of domestic violence, and

1 with the child abuse and neglect prevention ac-
2 tivities in the State, and demonstrate a finan-
3 cial commitment to those activities; and

4 “(E) will take into consideration access for
5 diverse populations and unmet need when dis-
6 tributing funds to local programs under section
7 205.”.

8 **SEC. 203. AMOUNT OF GRANT.**

9 Section 203 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
10 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116b) is amended—

11 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
12 following:

13 “(a) RESERVATION.—For the purpose of making al-
14 lotments to Indian tribes and tribal organizations and mi-
15 grant programs, the Secretary shall reserve 5 percent of
16 the amount appropriated under section 210(a) for each
17 fiscal year, except that, if making such reservation would
18 cause the total amount allotted to States under this sec-
19 tion for a fiscal year to be less than such total for fiscal
20 year 2019, the Secretary shall reserve 1 percent of the
21 amount appropriated under section 210(a) for the year for
22 such purpose.”; and

23 (2) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(d) LIMITATION.—For any fiscal year for which the
25 amount allotted to a State under subsection (b) exceeds

1 the amount allotted to the State under such subsection
2 for fiscal year 2019, the State’s lead entity may use not
3 more than 10 percent of such excess amount for adminis-
4 trative expenses.”.

5 **SEC. 204. APPLICATION.**

6 Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
7 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116d) is amended—

8 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
9 striking “specified by the Secretary as essential to
10 carrying out the provisions of section 202, includ-
11 ing” and inserting “and assurances required in
12 paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 202 and types of
13 information specified by the Secretary as essential in
14 carrying out the provisions of section 201(b), includ-
15 ing”;

16 (2) in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4), by striking
17 “community-based and prevention-focused programs
18 and activities designed to strengthen and support
19 families” and inserting “community-based family
20 strengthening services designed”;

21 (3) in paragraph (3) by striking “community-
22 based and prevention-focused programs and activi-
23 ties” and inserting “community-based family
24 strengthening services designed”;

1 (4) in paragraph (5), by striking “and preven-
2 tion-focused programs and activities designed to
3 strengthen and support families to prevent child
4 abuse and neglect;” and inserting “services and
5 statewide strategies designed to strengthen and sup-
6 port families to promote child, family, and commu-
7 nity well-being and prevent child abuse and ne-
8 glect;”;

9 (5) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the
10 following:

11 “(6) a description of the State’s capacity and
12 commitment to ensure the meaningful involvement
13 of parents who are or have been consumers of pre-
14 ventative supports, including the involvement of par-
15 ents of diverse populations, such as low-income fami-
16 lies, families with children or caregivers with disabili-
17 ties, racial and ethnic minorities, and members of
18 other underrepresented or underserved groups, fam-
19 ily advocates, and adult victims of child abuse or ne-
20 glect who can provide leadership in the planning, im-
21 plementation, and evaluation of the programs and
22 policy decisions of the applicant agency in accom-
23 plishing the desired outcomes for such efforts;”;

24 (6) by redesignating paragraph (12) as para-
25 graph (15);

1 (7) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through
2 (11) as paragraphs (8) through (12), respectively;

3 (8) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(7) a description of the process and criteria
6 the lead entity will use to identify and select commu-
7 nities in which to build a continuum of family
8 strengthening services, including an assurance that
9 the process will ensure access for all families, includ-
10 ing families in communities with high rates of child
11 abuse and neglect relative to other communities in
12 the State;”;

13 (9) by striking paragraph (9), as so redesign-
14 ated, and inserting the following:

15 “(9) a description of outreach activities that the
16 lead entity and local grantees will undertake to
17 maximize the participation of low-income families,
18 racial and ethnic minorities, families with children or
19 caregivers with disabilities, sexual and gender minor-
20 ity youth, victims of domestic violence, homeless
21 families and those at risk of homelessness, and
22 members of other underserved or underrepresented
23 groups;”.

24 (10) by striking paragraph (10), as so redesign-
25 ated, and inserting the following:

1 “(10) a plan for providing operational support,
2 professional development, and technical assistance to
3 grantees, other State and local programs and pro-
4 viders, families, and other entities involved in
5 strengthening families and preventing child abuse
6 and neglect;”;

7 (11) in paragraph (11), as so redesignated, by
8 striking “and its members (where appropriate)” and
9 inserting “of community-based family strengthening
10 services and statewide initiatives”; and

11 (12) by striking paragraph (12), as so redesign-
12 ated, and inserting the following:

13 “(12) a description of the actions that the ap-
14 plicant entity will take to inform systemic changes in
15 State policies, practices, procedures, and regulations
16 to improve the delivery of community-based family
17 strengthening services designed to promote child,
18 family, and community well-being, and to prevent
19 child abuse and neglect;

20 “(13) a description of how the lead entity will
21 incorporate research evidence in its process for se-
22 lecting community-based family strengthening serv-
23 ices;

24 “(14) an assurance that, in issuing regulations
25 to improve the delivery of community-based family

1 strengthening services designed to promote child,
2 family, and community well-being, and to prevent
3 child abuse and neglect, the State will—

4 “(A) take into account how such regula-
5 tions will impact activities funded under this
6 Act; and

7 “(B) where appropriate, attempt to avoid
8 duplication of efforts, minimize costs of compli-
9 ance with such regulations, and maximize local
10 flexibility with respect to such regulations;
11 and”.

12 **SEC. 205. LOCAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

13 Section 205 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
14 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116e) is amended to read as
15 follows:

16 **“SEC. 205. LOCAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Grants from the lead entity
18 made under this title shall be used to develop, implement,
19 operate, expand, and enhance community-based family
20 strengthening services designed to prevent child abuse and
21 neglect that—

22 “(1) assess community assets and needs and
23 develop a strategy to create a comprehensive con-
24 tinuum of effective services that strengthen and sup-
25 port families to prevent child abuse and neglect,

1 through a planning process involving parents, local
2 and public agencies, local nonprofit organizations
3 and service providers, and private sector representa-
4 tives in meaningful ways;

5 “(2) develop or enhance existing place-based
6 family strengthening services, other parenting sup-
7 port services, and connections and coordination
8 among key family services in the community by
9 reaching spaces familiar to such families; and

10 “(3) help families build protective factors that
11 support child and family well-being and help prevent
12 child abuse and neglect, including knowledge of par-
13 enting and child development, parental resilience, so-
14 cial connections, time-limited and need-based con-
15 crete support, and social and emotional development
16 of children.

17 “(b) LOCAL CONSIDERATION.—In awarding grants,
18 the lead entity shall consider, consistent with the needs
19 of the State and community, how the grantee—

20 “(1) demonstrates the ability to form collabora-
21 tions across a range of services or initiatives and the
22 commitment to engage in long-term planning and
23 strategic development for community-based family
24 strengthening services as well as provide on-going
25 problem solving support;

1 “(2) involves parents, including parents of chil-
2 dren with disabilities, diverse racial and ethnic
3 groups, and members of other underrepresented or
4 underserved populations, in the development, imple-
5 mentation, oversight, and evaluation of services;

6 “(3) addresses the need for place-based services
7 and the need to reach families in hard-to-reach areas
8 through approaches that provide core family
9 strengthening services;

10 “(4) promotes improved access to family
11 strengthening services for diverse populations and
12 ensures that the services address identified needs of
13 all families; and

14 “(5) demonstrates an understanding of the
15 sources of child and family trauma and the strate-
16 gies that mitigate the impact of and prevent adverse
17 childhood experiences.

18 “(c) LOCAL USES OF FUNDS.—Grant funds from the
19 lead entity shall be used for community-based family
20 strengthening services designed to prevent child abuse and
21 neglect, which may include the following:

22 “(1) Developing a strategy based on supporting
23 a comprehensive continuum of preventive, family-
24 centered services that strengthen and support fami-
25 lies to prevent child abuse and neglect, especially to

1 young parents, to parents with young children, and
2 to parents who are adult victims of domestic violence
3 or child abuse or neglect, through public-private
4 partnerships.

5 “(2) Addressing the needs of families in hard-
6 to-reach areas by creating access to place-based fam-
7 ily strengthening services.

8 “(3) Performing an assessment of community
9 needs, including by partnering, at the option of the
10 grantee, with an organization that already has per-
11 formed a needs assessment (such as a Maternal, In-
12 fant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program
13 under section 511 of the Social Security Act (42
14 U.S.C. 711) or a Head Start program under the
15 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.).

16 “(4) Supporting outreach for services, including
17 by coordinating with existing family strengthening
18 services such as home visiting and other early inter-
19 vention programs.

20 “(5) Providing, promoting the development or
21 enhancement of, or connecting families to, core serv-
22 ices that include—

23 “(A) parenting support and parent edu-
24 cation programs, including services that help

1 parents and other caregivers support children’s
2 development;

3 “(B) parent leadership skills development
4 programs that support parents’ personal growth
5 as leaders in their families and communities;

6 “(C) mutual support groups for parents,
7 children, and parent partners;

8 “(D) respite and crisis care; and

9 “(E) referrals to optional community and
10 social services, including—

11 “(i) domestic violence services;

12 “(ii) screening and referrals to early
13 intervention;

14 “(iii) voluntary home visiting pro-
15 grams;

16 “(iv) health and mental health serv-
17 ices, including referrals for information on
18 the State Medicaid plan under title XIX of
19 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et
20 seq.);

21 “(v) early care and learning programs
22 including child care and Head Start pro-
23 grams and Early Head Start programs
24 under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831
25 et seq.);

1 “(vi) nutrition programs, including
2 the special supplemental nutrition program
3 for women, infants, and children estab-
4 lished under section 17 of the Child Nutri-
5 tion Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786) and the
6 supplemental nutrition assistance program
7 established under the Food and Nutrition
8 Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

9 “(vii) education and workforce devel-
10 opment programs, including adult literacy,
11 child development, wellness, and family so-
12 cioeconomic mobility programs; and

13 “(viii) services and supports to meet
14 the needs of families with children or care-
15 givers with disabilities, such as early inter-
16 vention services for infants and toddlers
17 with disabilities and their families, as early
18 intervention services are defined in section
19 632 of the Individuals with Disabilities
20 Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1432).

21 “(6) Providing leadership in mobilizing local
22 public and private resources to support the provision
23 of community-based family strengthening services
24 designed to prevent child abuse and neglect.

1 “(7) Developing and maintaining meaningful
2 partnerships with parents relating to the develop-
3 ment, operation, evaluation, and oversight of the
4 programs and services.

5 “(8) Coordinating with other community-based
6 family strengthening services designed to prevent
7 child abuse and neglect in the development, oper-
8 ation, and expansion of networks where appropriate.

9 “(d) PRIORITY.—When awarding grants, a lead enti-
10 ty shall give priority to effective community-based efforts
11 that serve low-income communities and are focused on
12 comprehensive approaches to serving young parents or
13 parents with young children.”.

14 **SEC. 206. PERFORMANCE MEASURES.**

15 Section 206 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
16 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116f) is amended—

17 (1) in paragraphs (1), (5), (6), and (8), by
18 striking “community-based and prevention-focused
19 programs and activities designed to strengthen and
20 support families” and inserting “community-based
21 family strengthening services designed”;

22 (2) in paragraph (1), by striking “meets” and
23 inserting “meet”;

1 (3) in paragraph (2), by striking “including
2 core and optional services as described in section
3 202”;

4 (4) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the
5 following:

6 “(3) shall demonstrate how they have addressed
7 unmet needs identified by the inventory required
8 under section 204;”.

9 (5) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the
10 following:

11 “(4) shall describe the number of families
12 served, including families with children or caregivers
13 with disabilities, and the involvement of a diverse
14 representation of families in the design, operation,
15 and evaluation of both community-based family
16 strengthening services and networks of such serv-
17 ices;”;

18 (6) by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the
19 following:

20 “(7) shall describe—

21 “(A) the number of programs funded
22 disaggregated by urban, suburban, and rural
23 community type;

24 “(B) the number of children and families
25 served under each such program disaggregated

1 by urban, suburban, and rural community type;
2 and

3 “(C) the number of programs that partner
4 with outside entities and the services such out-
5 side entities provide;”;

6 (7) in paragraph (8)—

7 (A) by striking “leadership of” and insert
8 “partnership with”; and

9 (B) by striking the period at the end and
10 inserting “; and”; and

11 (8) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(9) shall describe the extent to which there is
13 evidence to support the effectiveness of activities
14 conducted under this title for the program’s in-
15 tended purpose, or, in instances where such evidence
16 is not available, shall describe barriers and chal-
17 lenges to developing evidence of effectiveness.”.

18 **SEC. 207. NATIONAL NETWORK FOR COMMUNITY-BASED**

19 **FAMILY RESOURCE PROGRAMS.**

20 Section 207 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
21 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116fg) is amended—

22 (1) in the matter preceeding paragraph (1), by
23 striking “such sums as may be necessary” and in-
24 serting “not more than 5 percent”; and

1 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “community-
2 based and prevention-focused programs and activi-
3 ties designed to strengthen and support families”
4 and inserting “community-based family strength-
5 ening services designed”.

6 **SEC. 208. DEFINITIONS.**

7 Section 208 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
8 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
10 paragraphs (2) and (1), respectively; and

11 (2) by striking paragraph (1) (as so redesign-
12 ated) and inserting the following:

13 “(1) **COMMUNITY-BASED FAMILY STRENGTH-**
14 **ENING SERVICES.**—The term ‘community-based fam-
15 ily strengthening services’ includes organizations
16 such as family resource programs, family support
17 programs, voluntary home visiting programs, respite
18 care services, parenting education, mutual support
19 groups for parents, children, parent partner pro-
20 grams, and other community programs or networks
21 of such programs that provide activities that are de-
22 signed to prevent child abuse and neglect.”.

1 **SEC. 209. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Child Abuse Pre-
3 vention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116 et seq.) is
4 amended—

5 (1) by redesignating section 209 as section 210;

6 and

7 (2) by inserting after section 208 the following:

8 **“SEC. 209. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

9 “Nothing in this title shall be construed to prohibit
10 grandparents, kinship care providers, foster parents, adop-
11 tive parents, or any other individual in a parenting role
12 from receiving or participating in services and programs
13 under this title.”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
15 tents in section 1(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and
16 Treatment Act is amended by striking the item relating
17 to section 209 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 209. Rule of construction.

“Sec. 210. Authorization of appropriations.”.

18 **SEC. 210. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 Section 210 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
20 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116 et seq.), as redesignated
21 by section 209 of this Act, is amended—

22 (1) by striking “There are” and inserting the
23 following:

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are”;

1 (2) by striking “to carry out” through “fiscal
2 year 2010” and inserting “to carry out this title
3 \$270,000,000 for fiscal year 2020”;

4 (3) by striking “2011 through 2015” and in-
5 serting “2021 through 2025”; and

6 (4) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(b) TREATMENT OF NON-FEDERAL FUNDS IN CER-
8 TAIN FISCAL YEARS.—For any fiscal year for which the
9 amount appropriated under subsection (a) exceeds the
10 amount appropriated under such subsection for fiscal year
11 2019, the Secretary shall consider non-Federal funds and
12 in-kind contributions as part of the State contribution for
13 the activities specified in section 204(4).”.

14 **SEC. 211. STUDY AND REPORT.**

15 (a) STUDY RELATING TO NEW PREVENTION PRO-
16 GRAMS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of
18 the United States shall complete a study, using data
19 reported by States to the Secretary of Health and
20 Human Services under section 206 of the Child
21 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.
22 5116f), as amended by this Act—

23 (A) to determine how many families and
24 children in the first 3 years after the date of
25 the enactment of this Act are served annually

1 through programs funded under title II of the
2 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42
3 U.S.C. 5116 et seq.); and

4 (B) to compare the number of such fami-
5 lies and children served annually in the first 3
6 years after the date of the enactment of this
7 Act to the number of such families and children
8 served in fiscal year 2019.

9 (2) CONTENTS.—The study required under
10 paragraph (1) shall include the following for each of
11 the first 3 years after the date of the enactment of
12 this Act:

13 (A) An examination of how many families
14 received evidence-based programming under
15 title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and
16 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116 et seq.).

17 (B) An examination of the extent to which
18 local programs conduct evaluations using funds
19 provided under such title and the findings of
20 such evaluations.

21 (C) An examination of whether findings of
22 effectiveness in evaluation studies vary by
23 urban, suburban, or rural community type.

24 (D) An examination of whether programs
25 partnering with other entities are more effective

1 than those that do not partner with other enti-
2 ties.

3 (E) An examination of barriers to imple-
4 ment evidence-based programming or to con-
5 duct evaluations in instances where such activi-
6 ties do not occur.

7 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date
8 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of
9 the United States shall submit to the Committee on
10 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and
11 the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of
12 Representatives a report that contains the results of the
13 study conducted under paragraph (1).

14 **TITLE III—ADOPTION**
15 **OPPORTUNITIES**

16 **SEC. 301. PURPOSE.**

17 Section 201 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
18 Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C.
19 5111) is amended—

20 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**CON-**
21 **GRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF**
22 **PURPOSE**” and inserting “**PURPOSE**”;

23 (2) by striking subsection (a); and

24 (3) in subsection (b)—

25 (A) by striking “(b) PURPOSE.—”;

1 (B) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
2 by inserting “sexual and gender minority
3 youth” after “particularly older children, minor-
4 ity children,”; and

5 (C) in paragraph (1), by inserting “serv-
6 ices and,” after “post-legal adoption”.

7 **SEC. 302. REPORT AND GUIDANCE ON UNREGULATED CUS-**
8 **TODY TRANSFERS.**

9 The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and
10 Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5111 et seq.)
11 is amended by inserting after section 201 the following:

12 **“SEC. 202. REPORT AND GUIDANCE ON UNREGULATED CUS-**
13 **TODY TRANSFERS.**

14 “(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
15 gress that:

16 “(1) Some adopted children may be at risk of
17 experiencing an unregulated custody transfer be-
18 cause the challenges associated with adoptions (in-
19 cluding the child’s mental health needs and the dif-
20 ficulties many families face in acquiring support
21 services) may lead families to seek out unregulated
22 custody transfers.

23 “(2) Some adopted children experience trauma,
24 and the disruption and placement in another home

1 by unregulated custody transfer creates additional
2 trauma and instability for children.

3 “(3) Children who experience an unregulated
4 custody transfer may be placed with families who
5 have not completed required child welfare or crimi-
6 nal background checks or clearances.

7 “(4) Social services agencies and courts are
8 often unaware of the placement of children through
9 unregulated custody transfer and therefore do not
10 conduct assessments on the child’s safety and well-
11 being in such placements.

12 “(5) Such lack of placement oversight places a
13 child at risk for future abuse and increases the
14 chance that the child may experience—

15 “(A) abuse or neglect;

16 “(B) contact with unsafe adults or youth;
17 and

18 “(C) exposure to unsafe or isolated envi-
19 ronments.

20 “(6) The caregivers with whom a child is placed
21 through unregulated custody transfer often have no
22 legal responsibility with respect to such child, plac-
23 ing the child at risk for additional unregulated cus-
24 tody transfers.

1 “(7) Such caregivers also may not have com-
2 plete records with respect to such child, including
3 the child’s birth, medical, or immigration records.

4 “(8) A child adopted through intercountry
5 adoption may be at risk of not acquiring United
6 States citizenship if an unregulated custody transfer
7 occurs before the adoptive parents complete all nec-
8 essary steps to finalize the adoption of such child.

9 “(9) Engaging in, or offering to engage in, un-
10 regulated custody transfer places children at risk of
11 harm.

12 “(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
14 the date of the enactment of this section, the Sec-
15 retary of Health and Human Services shall provide
16 to the Committee on Education and Labor of the
17 House of Representatives, the Committee on Ways
18 and Means of the House of Representatives, the
19 Committee on Finance of the Senate, and the Com-
20 mittee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of
21 the Senate a report on unregulated custody transfers
22 of children, including of adopted children.

23 “(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
24 paragraph (1) shall include—

1 “(A) the causes, methods, and characteris-
2 tics of unregulated custody transfers, including
3 the use of social media and the internet;

4 “(B) the effects of unregulated custody
5 transfers on children, including the lack of as-
6 sessment of a child’s safety and well-being by
7 social services agencies and courts due to such
8 unregulated custody transfer;

9 “(C) the prevalence of unregulated custody
10 transfers within each State and across all
11 States; and

12 “(D) recommended policies for preventing,
13 identifying, and responding to unregulated cus-
14 tody transfers, including of adopted children,
15 that include—

16 “(i) amendments to Federal and State
17 law to address unregulated custody trans-
18 fers;

19 “(ii) amendments to child protection
20 practices to address unregulated custody
21 transfers; and

22 “(iii) methods of providing the public
23 information regarding adoption and child
24 protection.

25 “(c) GUIDANCE TO STATES.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date specified in subsection (b)(1), the Sec-
3 retary shall issue guidance and technical assistance
4 to States related to preventing, identifying, and re-
5 sponding to unregulated custody transfers, including
6 of adopted children.

7 “(2) ELEMENTS.—The guidance required under
8 paragraph (1) shall include—

9 “(A) education materials related to pre-
10 venting, identifying, and responding to unregu-
11 lated custody transfers for employees of State,
12 local, and Tribal agencies that provide child
13 welfare services;

14 “(B) guidance on appropriate pre-adoption
15 education and post-adoption services for domes-
16 tic and international adoptive families to pro-
17 mote child permanency; and

18 “(C) the assistance available through the
19 National Resource Center for Special Needs
20 Adoption under section 203(b)(9).

21 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 “(1) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of
23 the several States, the District of Columbia, and any
24 commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United
25 States.

1 “(2) UNREGULATED CUSTODY TRANSFER.—

2 The term ‘unregulated custody transfer’ means the
3 abandonment of a child, by the child’s parent, legal
4 guardian, or a person or entity acting on behalf, and
5 with the consent, of such parent or guardian—

6 “(A) by placing a child with a person who
7 is not—

8 “(i) the child’s parent, step-parent,
9 grandparent, adult sibling, legal guardian,
10 or other adult relative;

11 “(ii) a friend of the family who is an
12 adult and with whom the child is familiar;
13 or

14 “(iii) a member of the Federally rec-
15 ognized Indian tribe of which the child is
16 also a member;

17 “(B) with the intent of severing the rela-
18 tionship between the child and the parent or
19 guardian of such child; and

20 “(C) without—

21 “(i) reasonably ensuring the safety of
22 the child and permanency of the placement
23 of the child, including by conducting an of-
24 ficial home study, background check, and
25 supervision; and

1 “(ii) transferring the legal rights and
2 responsibilities of parenthood or guardian-
3 ship under applicable Federal and State
4 law to a person described in subparagraph
5 (A).”.

6 **SEC. 303. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.**

7 (a) NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR SPECIAL
8 NEEDS ADOPTION.—Section 203(b)(9) of the Child Abuse
9 Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of
10 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5113(b)(9)) is amended by inserting “not
11 later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the
12 Stronger Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, es-
13 tablish and” before “maintain”.

14 (b) PLACEMENT WITH ADOPTIVE FAMILIES.—Sec-
15 tion 203(b)(11)(C) of the Child Abuse Prevention and
16 Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C.
17 5113(b)(11)(C)) is amended by striking “such children”
18 and inserting “the children and youth described in the
19 matter preceding paragraph (1) of section 201”.

20 (c) PRE-ADOPTION SERVICES.—Section 203(c)(1) of
21 the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption
22 Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5113(c)(1)) is amended
23 by striking “post” and inserting “pre- and post-”.

24 (d) SERVICES.—Section 203(c)(2) of the Child Abuse
25 Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of

1 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5113(e)(2)) is amended by inserting
2 “and the development of such services,” after “not sup-
3 plant, services”.

4 (e) ELIMINATION OF BARRIERS TO ADOPTION
5 ACROSS JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES.—Section
6 203(e)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment
7 and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5113(e)(1))
8 is amended—

9 (1) by striking “with, States,” and inserting
10 “with States, Indian Tribes,”; and

11 (2) by inserting “, including through the use of
12 web-based tools such as the electronic interstate
13 case-processing system referred to in section 437(g)
14 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629g(g))” be-
15 fore the period at the end.

16 **SEC. 304. STUDY AND REPORT ON SUCCESSFUL ADOP-**
17 **TIONS.**

18 Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
19 Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C.
20 5114) is amended to read as follows:

21 **“SEC. 204. STUDY AND REPORT ON SUCCESSFUL ADOP-**
22 **TIONS.**

23 “(a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study
24 (directly or by grant to, or contract with, public or private

1 nonprofit research agencies or organizations) on adoption
2 outcomes and the factors affecting those outcomes.

3 “(b) REPORT.—Not later than the date that is 36
4 months after the date of the enactment of the Stronger
5 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act the Secretary
6 shall submit a report to Congress that includes the results
7 of the study required under subsection (a).”.

8 **SEC. 305. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 Section 205(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and
10 Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C.
11 5115(a)) is amended—

12 (1) by striking “fiscal year 2010” and inserting
13 “fiscal year 2020”; and

14 (2) by striking “fiscal years 2011 through
15 2015” and inserting “fiscal years 2021 through
16 2025”.

