

**Suspend the Rules And Pass the Bill, H.R. 9076, with Amendments**

**(The amendments strike all after the enacting clause and insert a new text and a new title)**

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9076

To reauthorize and modernize part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to strengthen child welfare services, expand the availability of prevention services to better meet the needs of vulnerable families, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 2024

Mr. LAHOOD (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To reauthorize and modernize part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to strengthen child welfare services, expand the availability of prevention services to better meet the needs of vulnerable families, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Supporting America’s  
5 Children and Families Act”.

1 **TITLE I—CHILD WELFARE REAU-**  
2 **THORIZATION AND MOD-**  
3 **ERNIZATION**

4 **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.**

5 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This title may be cited as the  
6 “Protecting America’s Children by Strengthening Fami-  
7 lies Act”.

8 (b) **REFERENCES.**—Except as otherwise expressly  
9 provided, wherever in this title an amendment or repeal  
10 is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of,  
11 a section or other provision, the reference shall be consid-  
12 ered to be made to that section or other provision of the  
13 Social Security Act.

14 **SEC. 102. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

15 The table of contents of this title is as follows:

- Sec. 101. Short title; references.
- Sec. 102. Table of contents.
- Sec. 103. Reauthorization of child welfare programs.
- Sec. 104. Enhancements to the court improvement program.
- Sec. 105. Expanding regional partnership grants to address parental substance use disorder as cause of child removal.
- Sec. 106. Modernization; reducing administrative burden.
- Sec. 107. Streamlining funding for Indian tribes.
- Sec. 108. Accelerating access to Family First prevention services.
- Sec. 109. Strengthening support for youth aging out of foster care.
- Sec. 110. Recognizing the importance of relative and kinship caregivers.
- Sec. 111. Avoiding neglect by addressing poverty.
- Sec. 112. Strengthening support for caseworkers.
- Sec. 113. Demonstration projects for improving relationships between incarcerated parents and children in foster care.
- Sec. 114. Guidance to States on improving data collection and reporting for youth in residential treatment programs.
- Sec. 115. Streamlining research, training, and technical assistance funding.
- Sec. 116. Report on post adoption and subsidized guardianship services.
- Sec. 117. Effective date.

1 **SEC. 103. REAUTHORIZATION OF CHILD WELFARE PRO-**  
2 **GRAMS.**

3 (a) REAUTHORIZATION OF SUBPART 1; DISCRE-  
4 TIONARY FUNDING.—Section 425 (42 U.S.C. 625) is  
5 amended by striking “2017 through 2023” and inserting  
6 “2025 through 2029”.

7 (b) REAUTHORIZATION OF SUBPART 2; ENHANCED  
8 SUPPORT.—Section 436(a) (42 U.S.C. 629f(a)) is amend-  
9 ed by striking “each of fiscal years 2017 through 2023”  
10 and inserting “fiscal year 2025 and \$420,000,000 for  
11 each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029”.

12 (c) REAUTHORIZATION OF SUBPART 2; DISCRE-  
13 TIONARY FUNDING.—Section 437(a) (42 U.S.C. 629g(a))  
14 is amended by striking “2017 through 2023” and insert-  
15 ing “2025 through 2029”.

16 (d) FUNDING LIMITATION.—Section 423(a)(2)(A)  
17 (42 U.S.C. 623(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “, not  
18 to exceed \$10,000,000” before the semicolon.

19 **SEC. 104. ENHANCEMENTS TO THE COURT IMPROVEMENT**  
20 **PROGRAM.**

21 (a) INCREASE IN RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Section  
22 436(b)(2) (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(2)) is amended by inserting  
23 “for fiscal year 2025 and \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2026  
24 and each succeeding fiscal year” before “for grants”.

25 (b) EXTENSION OF STATE MATCH REQUIREMENT.—  
26 Section 438(d) (42 U.S.C. 629h(d)) is amended by strik-

1 ing “2017 through 2023” and inserting “2025 through  
2 2029”.

3 (c) PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS.—Section 438(a) (42  
4 U.S.C. 629h(a)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end the  
6 following:

7 “(F) that determine the appropriateness  
8 and best practices for use of technology to con-  
9 duct remote hearings, subject to participant  
10 consent, including to ensure maximum partici-  
11 pation of individuals involved in proceedings  
12 and to enable courts to maintain operations in  
13 times of public health or other emergencies;”;

14 (2) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking “per-  
15 sonnel.” and inserting “personnel and supporting  
16 optimal use of remote hearing technology; and”;

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

18 “(3) to ensure continuity of needed court serv-  
19 ices, prevent disruption of the services, and enable  
20 their recovery from threats such as public health cri-  
21 ses, natural disasters or cyberattacks, including  
22 through—

23 “(A) support for technology that allows  
24 court proceedings to occur remotely subject to

1 participant consent, including hearings and  
2 legal representation;

3 “(B) the development of guidance and pro-  
4 tocols for responding to the occurrences and co-  
5 ordinating with other agencies; and

6 “(C) other activities carried out to ensure  
7 backup systems are in place.”.

8 (d) IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE ON SHARING BEST  
9 PRACTICES FOR TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES NEEDED FOR  
10 REMOTE COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR FOSTER CARE OR  
11 ADOPTION.—Section 438 (42 U.S.C. 629h) is amended by  
12 adding at the end the following:

13 “(e) GUIDANCE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Every 5 years, the Sec-  
15 retary shall issue implementation guidance for shar-  
16 ing information on best practices for—

17 “(A) technological changes needed for  
18 court proceedings for foster care, guardianship,  
19 or adoption to be conducted remotely in a way  
20 that maximizes engagement and protects the  
21 privacy of participants; and

22 “(B) the manner in which the proceedings  
23 should be conducted.

24 “(2) INITIAL ISSUANCE.—The Secretary shall  
25 issue initial guidance required by paragraph (1) with

1 preliminary information on best practices not later  
2 than October 1, 2025.

3 “(3) **ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION.**—The Sec-  
4 retary shall consult with Indian tribes on the devel-  
5 opment of appropriate guidelines for State court  
6 proceedings involving Indian children to maximize  
7 engagement of Indian tribes and provide appropriate  
8 guidelines on conducting State court proceedings  
9 subject to the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (25  
10 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).”

11 **SEC. 105. EXPANDING REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS**  
12 **TO ADDRESS PARENTAL SUBSTANCE USE DIS-**  
13 **ORDER AS CAUSE OF CHILD REMOVAL.**

14 (a) **INCREASE IN RESERVATION OF FUNDS.**—Section  
15 436(b)(5) (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(5)) is amended by striking  
16 “each of fiscal years 2017 through 2023” and inserting  
17 “fiscal year 2025 and \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2026  
18 and each succeeding fiscal year”.

19 (b) **REAUTHORIZATION.**—Section 437(f) (42 U.S.C.  
20 629g(f)) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (3)(A)—

22 (A) by striking “In addition to amounts  
23 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this  
24 section, the” and inserting “The”; and

1 (B) by striking “2017 through 2023” and  
2 inserting “2025 through 2029”; and

3 (2) in paragraph (10), by striking “for each of  
4 fiscal years 2017 through 2023”.

5 (c) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE PLANNING PHASE.—Sec-  
6 tion 437(f)(3)(B)(iii) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(3)(B)(iii)) is  
7 amended—

8 (1) by striking all that precedes “grant award-  
9 ed” and inserting the following:

10 “(iii) SUFFICIENT PLANNING.—

11 “(I) IN GENERAL.—A”; and

12 (2) by striking “may not exceed \$250,000,  
13 and”; and

14 (3) by adding after and below the end the fol-  
15 lowing:

16 “(II) EXCEPTION.—The Sec-  
17 retary, on a case-by-case basis, may  
18 waive the planning phase for a part-  
19 nership that demonstrates that the  
20 partnership has engaged in sufficient  
21 planning before submitting an appli-  
22 cation for a grant under this sub-  
23 section.”.

24 (d) EXPANDING AVAILABILITY OF EVIDENCE-BASED  
25 SERVICES.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 437(f)(1) (42 U.S.C.  
2           629g(f)(1)) is amended by inserting “, and expand  
3           the scope of the evidence-based services that may be  
4           approved by the clearinghouse established under sec-  
5           tion 476(d)” before the period.

6           (2) CONSIDERATIONS FOR AWARDING  
7           GRANTS.—Section 437(f)(7) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(7))  
8           is amended—

9                   (A) by striking “and” at the end of sub-  
10                  paragraph (D);

11                   (B) by striking the period at the end of  
12                  subparagraph (E) and inserting “; and”; and

13                   (C) by adding at the end the following:

14                           “(F) have submitted information pursuant  
15                           to paragraph (4)(F) that demonstrates the ca-  
16                           pability to participate in rigorous evaluation of  
17                           program effectiveness.”.

18           (e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON USING REGIONAL  
19           PARTNERSHIP GRANT FUNDS IN COORDINATION WITH  
20           OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS TO BETTER SERVE FAMILIES  
21           AFFECTED BY A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.—Section  
22           435(d) (42 U.S.C. 629e(d)) is amended—

23                   (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph  
24                  (4);



1 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-  
2 graph (5) and inserting “; and”; and

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

4 “(6) use grants under section 437(f) in coordi-  
5 nation with other Federal funds to better serve fami-  
6 lies in the child welfare system that are affected by  
7 a substance use disorder.”.

8 (f) PERFORMANCE INDICATORS.—Section  
9 437(f)(8)(A) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(8)(A)) is amended in the  
10 1st sentence—

11 (1) by striking “this subsection” the 1st place  
12 it appears and inserting “the Protecting America’s  
13 Children by Strengthening Families Act”;

14 (2) by inserting “child permanency, reunifica-  
15 tion, re-entry into care,” before “parental recovery”;  
16 and

17 (3) by inserting “, and access to services for  
18 families with substance use disorder, including those  
19 with children who are overrepresented in foster care,  
20 difficult to place, or have disproportionately low per-  
21 manency rates” before the period.

22 (g) PERFORMANCE INDICATOR CONSULTATION RE-  
23 QUIRED.—Section 437(f)(8)(B) (42 U.S.C.  
24 629g(f)(8)(B)) is amended by redesignating clause (iii) as  
25 clause (iv) and inserting after clause (ii) the following:

1                   “(iii) The Administrator of the Na-  
2                   tional Institute on Drug Abuse.”.

3           (h) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 437(f)(9)(B)  
4 (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(9)(B)) is amended—

5           (1) by striking “and” at the end of clause (ii);

6           (2) by striking the period at the end of clause

7           (iii) and inserting “; and”; and

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

9                   “(iv) whether any programs funded by  
10                   the grants were submitted to the clearing-  
11                   house established under section 476(d) for  
12                   review and the results of any such re-  
13                   view.”.

14           (i) PRIORITY FOR STATEWIDE SERVICE GROWTH.—  
15 Section 437(f)(7) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(7)), as amended by  
16 subsection (d)(2) of this section, is amended—

17           (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
18           graph (E);

19           (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-  
20           paragraph (F) and inserting “; and”; and

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

22                   “(G) are a State or public agency, or out-  
23                   line a plan to increase the availability of serv-  
24                   ices funded under the grant statewide.”.

1 (j) ADDITION OF JUVENILE COURT AS REQUIRED  
2 PARTNER.—Section 437(f)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C.  
3 629g(f)(2)(A)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
4 lowing:

5 “(iii) The most appropriate adminis-  
6 trative office of the juvenile court or State  
7 court overseeing court proceedings involv-  
8 ing families who come to the attention of  
9 the court due to child abuse or neglect.”.

10 (k) ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL PARTNER.—Section  
11 437(f)(2)(C) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(2)(C)) is amended by re-  
12 designating clause (ix) as clause (x) and inserting after  
13 clause (viii) the following:

14 “(ix) State or local agencies that ad-  
15 minister Federal health care, housing, fam-  
16 ily support, or other related programs.”.

17 (l) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

18 (1) Section 437(f)(2)(D) (42 U.S.C.  
19 629g(f)(2)(D)) is amended—

20 (A) by adding “and” at the end of clause  
21 (i);

22 (B) by striking “; and” at the end of  
23 clause (ii) and inserting a period; and

24 (C) by striking clause (iii).

1           (2) Section 437(f)(2) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(2)) is  
2           amended by striking subparagraph (B) and redesignig-  
3           nating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs  
4           (B) and (C), respectively

5 **SEC. 106. MODERNIZATION; REDUCING ADMINISTRATIVE**  
6 **BURDEN.**

7           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 431 (42 U.S.C. 629a) is  
8           amended by adding at the end the following:

9           “(c) USE OF TECHNOLOGY.—

10           “(1) USE OF PORTAL.—The services referred to  
11           in subsection (a) may include the means of access to  
12           and use of an electronic or digital portal to facilitate  
13           the provision of community support to care for and  
14           meet specific needs of families and children.

15           “(2) LIMITATION.—Such a portal shall not re-  
16           tain or share personally identifiable information  
17           about a beneficiary without consent or for any pur-  
18           pose other than referral.”.

19           (b) ALLOWING SUPPORT FOR FAMILY RESOURCE  
20           CENTERS.—Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)) is amend-  
21           ed—

22           (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “, includ-  
23           ing services provided by family resource centers,”  
24           before “designed”; and

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

1 “(10) FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘family re-  
3 source center’ means a community or school-  
4 based hub of support services for families  
5 that—

6 “(i) utilizes an approach that is multi-  
7 generational, strengths-based, and family-  
8 centered;

9 “(ii) reflects, and is responsive to,  
10 community needs and interests;

11 “(iii) provides support at no or low  
12 cost for participants; and

13 “(iv) builds communities of peer sup-  
14 port for families, including kinship fami-  
15 lies, to develop social connections that re-  
16 duce isolation and stress.

17 “(B) SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of  
18 this subpart, an expenditure for a service pro-  
19 vided by a family resource center may be treat-  
20 ed as an expenditure for any 1 or more of fam-  
21 ily support services, family preservation serv-  
22 ices, family reunification services, or adoption  
23 promotion and support services as long as the  
24 expenditure is related to serving the children  
25 and families in the specified category and con-

1           sistent with the overall purpose of the cat-  
2           egory.”.

3           (c) UPDATING STATE PLAN REQUIREMENT.—Sec-  
4           tion 422(b)(1) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(1)) is amended to read  
5           as follows:

6           “(1) provide that a State agency will administer  
7           or supervise the administration of the plan under  
8           this subpart;”.

9           (d) ACCESS TO LEGAL REPRESENTATION.—Section  
10          422(b)(4) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(4)) is amended—

11          (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
12          graph (A);

13          (2) by adding “and” at the end of subpara-  
14          graph (B); and

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

16                 “(C) the steps that the State will take to  
17                 ensure that, with respect to any judicial pro-  
18                 ceeding involving a child and in which there is  
19                 an allegation of child abuse or neglect, includ-  
20                 ing a proceeding on dependency, adoption,  
21                 guardianship, or termination of parental rights,  
22                 information about available independent legal  
23                 representation is provided to—

24                         “(i) the child, as appropriate; and

1                   “(ii) any individual who is a parent or  
2                   guardian, or has legal custody, of the  
3                   child;”.

4           (e) SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-  
5 BEING OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.—Section  
6 422(b)(15)(A) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(15) is amended—

7           (1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

8                   (A) by inserting “and, if applicable, the  
9                   State agency responsible for mental health serv-  
10                  ices,” before “and in consultation”; and

11                  (B) by inserting “mental health pro-  
12                  viders,” before “other experts”;

13           (2) in clause (ii), by inserting “a list of services  
14           provided to support the physical and” before “emo-  
15           tional”;

16           (3) in clause (iv), by inserting “and mental  
17           health” before “services”;

18           (4) in clause (v), by inserting “, informed con-  
19           sent of youth, and compliance with professional  
20           practice guidelines” before the semicolon; and

21           (5) in clause (vi), by inserting “, licensed men-  
22           tal health providers,” before “or other”.

23           (f) REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN.—

24           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart 3 of part B of title  
25           IV (42 U.S.C. 629m) is amended by redesignating

1 section 440 as section 443 and inserting before such  
2 section the following:

3 **“SEC. 441. REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall reduce the  
5 burden of administering this part imposed on the recipi-  
6 ents of funds under this part, by—

7 “(1) reviewing and revising administrative data  
8 collection instruments and forms to eliminate dupli-  
9 cation and streamline reporting requirements for the  
10 recipients while collecting all data required under  
11 this part;

12 “(2) in coordination with activities required  
13 under the Paperwork Reduction Act, conducting an  
14 analysis of the total number of hours reported by  
15 the recipients to comply with paperwork require-  
16 ments and exploring, in consultation with the recipi-  
17 ents, how to reduce the number of hours required  
18 for the compliance by at least 15 percent;

19 “(3) collecting input from the recipients with  
20 respect to fiscal and oversight requirements and  
21 making changes to ensure consistency with stand-  
22 ards and guidelines for other Federal formula grant  
23 programs based on the input; and

24 “(4) respecting the sovereignty of Indian tribes  
25 when complying with this subsection.



1       “(b) **LIMITATION ON APPLICABILITY.**—Subsection  
2 (a) of this section shall not apply to any reporting or data  
3 collection otherwise required by law that would affect the  
4 ability of the Secretary to monitor and ensure compliance  
5 with State plans approved under this part or ensure that  
6 funds are expended consistent with this part.

7       **“SEC. 442. PUBLIC ACCESS TO STATE PLANS.**

8       “The Secretary shall—

9               “(1) create a standardized format for State  
10 plans required under sections 422 and 432 used to  
11 monitor compliance with those sections;

12               “(2) produce comparisons and analyses of  
13 trends in State plans to inform future technical as-  
14 sistance and policy development;

15               “(3) make the State plans available on a public  
16 website; and

17               “(4) include on the website aggregated national  
18 summaries of State submissions as the Secretary  
19 deems appropriate.”.

20               (2) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—Within 2 years after  
21 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
22 of Health and Human Services shall—

23                       (A) comply with section 441 of the Social  
24 Security Act, as added by the amendment made  
25 by paragraph (1); and

1 (B) notify each recipient of funds under  
2 part B of title IV of the Social Security Act of  
3 any change made by the Secretary pursuant to  
4 such section affecting the recipient.

5 (3) REPORT.—Within 3 years after the date of  
6 the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health  
7 and Human Services shall submit to the Committee  
8 on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives  
9 and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a re-  
10 port describing the efforts of the Secretary to com-  
11 ply with section 441 of the Social Security Act, as  
12 added by the amendment made by paragraph (1), in-  
13 cluding the specific actions to comply with each  
14 paragraph of such section.

15 (g) PRIMARY PREVENTION PARTNERS.—Section  
16 435(a)(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 429e(a)(2)(B)) is amended by in-  
17 serting “including community-based partners with exper-  
18 tise in preventing unnecessary child welfare system in-  
19 volvement” before the semicolon.

20 **SEC. 107. STREAMLINING FUNDING FOR INDIAN TRIBES.**

21 (a) SUBPART 1.—

22 (1) TRIBAL SET-ASIDE; DIRECT PAYMENTS TO  
23 TRIBES; EXEMPTIVE AUTHORITY.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 428 (42 U.S.C.  
2 628) is amended by striking subsections (a) and  
3 (b) and inserting the following:

4 “(a) RESERVATION OF FUNDS; DIRECT PAY-  
5 MENTS.—Out of any amount appropriated pursuant to  
6 section 425 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall reserve  
7 3 percent for grants to Indian tribes and tribal organiza-  
8 tions, which shall be paid directly to Indian tribes and  
9 tribal organizations with a plan approved under this sub-  
10 part, in accordance with section 433(a).”.

11 (B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
12 423(a) (42 U.S.C. 623(a)) is amended by strik-  
13 ing “the sum appropriated pursuant to section  
14 425 for each fiscal year” and inserting “for  
15 each fiscal year, the sum appropriated pursuant  
16 to section 425 remaining after applying section  
17 428(a)”.

18 (C) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section  
19 428(c) (42 U.S.C. 628(c)) is amended by strik-  
20 ing “450b” and inserting “5304”.

21 (2) IMPROVING COMPLIANCE WITH THE INDIAN  
22 CHILD WELFARE ACT.—

23 (A) STATE PLAN REQUIREMENT.—Section  
24 422(b)(9) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(9)) is amended by  
25 striking “Act;” and inserting “Act of 1978, in-

1 including how the State will ensure timely notice  
2 to Indian tribes of State custody proceedings  
3 involving Indian children, foster care or adop-  
4 tive placements of Indian children, and case  
5 recordkeeping as such matters relate to trans-  
6 fers of jurisdiction, termination of parental  
7 rights, and active efforts;”.

8 (B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Subpart 1  
9 of part B of title IV (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) is  
10 amended by adding at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 429B. EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDIAN**  
12 **CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2025,  
14 the Secretary, in consultation with Indian tribal organiza-  
15 tions and States, shall develop a plan and provide tech-  
16 nical assistance supporting effective implementation of the  
17 Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, including specific meas-  
18 ures identified in State plans as required by section  
19 422(b)(9) of this Act. The technical assistance plan shall  
20 be based on data sufficient to assess State strengths and  
21 areas for improvement in implementing Federal standards  
22 established under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978,  
23 including, at a minimum, the following:

24 “(1) Timely identification of Indian children  
25 and extended family members.

1           “(2) Timely tribal notice of State child custody  
2 proceedings involving an Indian child.

3           “(3) Reports of cases in which a transfer of ju-  
4 risdiction (as defined under the Indian Child Wel-  
5 fare Act of 1978) was granted or was not granted,  
6 and reasons specified for denial in cases where  
7 transfer was denied.

8           “(4) In cases in which a State court orders a  
9 foster care placement of an Indian child, whether re-  
10 quirements for active efforts to prevent the breakup  
11 of the Indian family, testimony of a qualified expert  
12 witness, and evidentiary standards were met.

13           “(5) Whether an Indian child was placed in a  
14 placement that is required to be preferred under the  
15 Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, and if not, the  
16 reasons specified.

17           “(6) In cases in which a State court orders the  
18 termination of parental rights to an Indian child,  
19 whether requirements for active efforts to prevent  
20 the breakup of the Indian family, testimony of a  
21 qualified expert witness, and evidentiary standards  
22 were met.

23           “(b) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—On request of  
24 the Secretary, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide  
25 the Secretary with such guidance and assistance as may

1 be necessary to facilitate informing States and public child  
2 welfare agencies on how to comply with the Indian Child  
3 Welfare Act of 1978, including specific measures identi-  
4 fied in State plans as required by section 422(b)(9) of this  
5 Act.

6 “(c) BIENNIAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Sec-  
7 retary shall biennially submit to the Committee on Ways  
8 and Means of the House of Representatives and the Com-  
9 mittee on Finance of the Senate a written report on how—

10 “(1) the States are complying with the Indian  
11 Child Welfare Act of 1978 and section 422(b)(9) of  
12 this Act, as informed by data collected under this  
13 section; and

14 “(2) the Secretary is assisting States and In-  
15 dian tribes to improve implementation of Federal  
16 standards established under the Indian Child Wel-  
17 fare Act of 1978.”.

18 (3) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; ADMINISTRA-  
19 TIVE COSTS.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 428 (42 U.S.C.  
21 628) is amended by redesignating subsection (c)  
22 as subsection (d) and inserting before such sub-  
23 section the following:

24 “(b) AUTHORITY TO STREAMLINE REPORTING RE-  
25 QUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with

1 the affected Indian tribes, modify any reporting require-  
2 ment imposed by or under this part on an Indian tribe,  
3 tribal organization, or tribal consortium if the total of the  
4 amounts allotted to the Indian tribe, tribal organization,  
5 or tribal consortium under this part for the fiscal year is  
6 not more than \$50,000, and in a manner that limits the  
7 administrative burden on any tribe to which not more than  
8 \$50,000 is allotted under this subpart for the fiscal year.

9       “(c) TRIBAL AUTHORITY TO SUBSTITUTE THE FED-  
10 ERAL NEGOTIATED INDIRECT COST RATE FOR ADMINIS-  
11 TRATIVE COSTS CAP.—For purposes of sections  
12 422(b)(14) and 424(e), an Indian tribal organization may  
13 elect to have the weighted average of the indirect cost  
14 rates in effect under part 220 of title 2, Code of Federal  
15 Regulations with respect to the administrative costs of the  
16 Indian tribal organization apply in lieu of the percentage  
17 specified in each such section.”.

18               (B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section  
19               431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)) is amended in each  
20               of paragraphs (5) and (6) by striking “428(c)”  
21               and inserting “428(d)”.

22       (b) SUBPART 2.—

23               (1) TRIBAL PLAN EXEMPTION.—Section  
24               432(b)(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 629b(b)(2)(B)) is amend-  
25               ed—

1 (A) by striking “section 433(a)” the 1st  
2 place it appears and inserting “sections 433(a)  
3 and 437(c)(1) combined”; and

4 (B) by striking “section 433(a)” the 2nd  
5 place it appears and inserting “such sections”.

6 (2) APPLICATION OF TRIBAL SET-ASIDE BE-  
7 FORE OTHER SET-ASIDES.—Section 436(b)(3) (42  
8 U.S.C. 429f(b)(3)) is amended by striking “After  
9 applying paragraphs (4) and (5) (but before apply-  
10 ing paragraphs (1) or (2)), the” and inserting  
11 “The”.

12 (3) INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR TRIBAL COURT  
13 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—Section 438(c)(3) (42  
14 U.S.C. 629h(c)(3)) is amended by inserting “for fis-  
15 cal year 2025, and \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal  
16 years 2026 through 2029,” before “for grants”.

17 **SEC. 108. ACCELERATING ACCESS TO FAMILY FIRST PRE-**  
18 **VENTION SERVICES.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 435 (42 U.S.C. 629e) is  
20 amended by adding at the end the following:

21 “(f) PREVENTION SERVICES EVALUATION PARTNER-  
22 SHIPS.—

23 “(1) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this subsection  
24 is to authorize the Secretary to make competitive  
25 grants to support the timely evaluation of—



1           “(A) services and programs described in  
2           section 471(e); or

3           “(B) kinship navigator programs described  
4           in section 474(a)(7).

5           “(2) GRANTS.—In accordance with applications  
6           approved under this subsection, the Secretary may  
7           make grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible enti-  
8           ties to carry out projects designed to evaluate a serv-  
9           ice or program provided by the eligible entity, or an  
10          entity in partnership with the eligible entity, with re-  
11          spect to the requirements for a promising practice,  
12          supported practice, or well-supported practice de-  
13          scribed in section 471(e)(4)(C).

14          “(3) APPLICATIONS.—

15                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity may  
16                 apply to the Secretary for a grant under this  
17                 subsection to carry out a project that meets the  
18                 following requirements:

19                         “(i) The project is designed in accord-  
20                         ance with paragraph (2).

21                         “(ii) The project is to be carried out  
22                         by the applicant in partnership with—

23                                 “(I) a State agency that admin-  
24                                 isters, or supervises the administra-  
25                                 tion of, the State plan approved under

1 part E, or an agency administering  
2 the plan under the supervision of the  
3 State agency; and

4 “(II) if the applicant is unable or  
5 unwilling to do so, at least 1 external  
6 evaluator to carry out the evaluation  
7 of the service or program provided by  
8 the applicant.

9 “(B) CONTENTS.—The application shall  
10 contain the following:

11 “(i) A description of the project, in-  
12 cluding—

13 “(I) a statement explaining why  
14 a grant is necessary to carry out the  
15 project; and

16 “(II) the amount of grant funds  
17 that would be disbursed to each entity  
18 described in subparagraph (A)(ii) in  
19 partnership with the applicant.

20 “(ii) A certification from each entity  
21 described in subparagraph (A)(ii) that pro-  
22 vides assurances that the individual or en-  
23 tity is in partnership with the applicant  
24 and will fulfill the responsibilities of the  
25 entity specified in the description provided

1                   pursuant to clause (i) of this subpara-  
2                   graph.

3                   “(iii) A certification from the appli-  
4                   cant that provides assurances that the ap-  
5                   plicant intends to comply with subpara-  
6                   graph (A)(ii)(II), if applicable.

7                   “(iv) At the option of the eligible enti-  
8                   ty, a certification from the applicant that  
9                   the applicant requires an external eval-  
10                  uator secured by the Secretary pursuant to  
11                  paragraph (5), if applicable.

12                  “(4) PRIORITIES.—In approving applications  
13                  under this subsection, the Secretary shall prioritize  
14                  the following:

15                  “(A) Addressing, with respect to the clear-  
16                  inghouse of practices described in section  
17                  476(d)(2), deficiencies or gaps identified by the  
18                  Secretary in consultation with—

19                  “(i) States, political subdivisions of a  
20                  State, and tribal communities carrying out,  
21                  or receiving the benefits of, a service or  
22                  program; and

23                  “(ii) child welfare experts, including  
24                  individuals with lived experience.

1           “(B) Maximizing the number of evidence-  
2 based services or programs to be included in the  
3 clearinghouse of practices described in section  
4 476(d)(2).

5           “(C) Timely completion of evaluations and  
6 the production of evidence.

7           “(D) Supporting services or programs that  
8 are based on, or are adaptations to new popu-  
9 lation settings of, a service or program with re-  
10 liable evidence about the benefits and risks of  
11 the service or program.

12           “(5) AVAILABILITY OF EXTERNAL EVAL-  
13 UATORS.—

14           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Before accepting ap-  
15 plications under this subsection, the Secretary  
16 shall make reasonable efforts to identify at least  
17 1 entity to serve as an external evaluator for  
18 any eligible entity that includes a certification  
19 under paragraph (3)(B)(iv) with an application  
20 under this subsection.

21           “(B) NO EFFECT ON CONSIDERATION OF  
22 APPLICATION.—The Secretary may not consider  
23 whether an eligible entity is in partnership with  
24 an external evaluator described in paragraph

1 (A) in approving an application under this sub-  
2 section submitted by the eligible entity.

3 “(6) REPORTS.—

4 “(A) BY GRANT RECIPIENTS.—Within 1  
5 year after receiving a grant under this sub-  
6 section, and every year thereafter for the next  
7 5 years, the grant recipient shall submit to the  
8 Secretary a written report on—

9 “(i) the use of grant funds;

10 “(ii) whether the program or service  
11 evaluated by the project meets a require-  
12 ment specified in section 471(e)(4)(C), in-  
13 cluding information about—

14 “(I) how the program or service  
15 is being carried out in accordance  
16 with standards specified in the re-  
17 quirement;

18 “(II) any outcomes of the pro-  
19 gram or service; and

20 “(III) any outcome with respect  
21 to which the service or program com-  
22 pares favorably to a comparison prac-  
23 tice; and

24 “(iii) whether the Secretary has in-  
25 cluded the program or service in an update

1 to the clearinghouse of practices described  
2 in section 476(d)(2).

3 “(B) BY THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary  
4 shall submit to the Committee on Ways and  
5 Means of the House of Representatives and to  
6 the Committee on Finance of the Senate an an-  
7 nual written report on—

8 “(i) the grants awarded under this  
9 subsection;

10 “(ii) the programs funded by the  
11 grants;

12 “(iii) any technical assistance pro-  
13 vided by the Secretary in carrying out this  
14 subsection, including with respect to the  
15 efforts to secure external evaluators pursu-  
16 ant to paragraph (5); and

17 “(iv) any efforts by the Secretary to  
18 support program evaluation and review  
19 pursuant to section 471(e) and inclusion of  
20 programs in the pre-approved list of serv-  
21 ices and programs described in section  
22 471(e)(4)(D) or the clearinghouse of prac-  
23 tices described in section 476(d)(2).

24 “(7) FUNDING.—

1           “(A) LIMITATIONS.—Of the amounts avail-  
2           able to carry out this subsection, the Secretary  
3           may use not more than 5 percent to provide  
4           technical assistance.

5           “(B) CARRYOVER.—Amounts made avail-  
6           able to carry out this subsection shall remain  
7           available until expended.

8           “(8) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

9           “(A) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligi-  
10           ble entity’ means any of the following providing  
11           a service or program or, in the sole determina-  
12           tion of the Secretary, able to provide a service  
13           or program if awarded a grant under this sub-  
14           section:

15                   “(i) A State, a political subdivision of  
16                   a State, or an agency or department of a  
17                   State or political subdivision of a State.

18                   “(ii) An entity described in subpara-  
19                   graph (A) or (B) of section 426(a)(1).

20                   “(iii) An Indian tribe or tribal organi-  
21                   zation.

22           “(B) EXTERNAL EVALUATOR.—The term  
23           ‘external evaluator’ means an entity with the  
24           ability and willingness to evaluate a service or

1 program pursuant to paragraph (2) that is not  
2 provided by the entity.

3 “(C) SERVICE OR PROGRAM.—The term  
4 ‘service or program’—

5 “(i) means a service or program de-  
6 scribed in section 471(e); and

7 “(ii) includes a kinship navigator pro-  
8 gram described in section 474(a)(7).”.

9 (b) FUNDING.—Section 437(b) (42 U.S.C. 629g(b))  
10 is amended by adding at the end the following:

11 “(5) PREVENTIVE SERVICES EVALUATION  
12 PARTNERSHIPS.—The Secretary shall reserve  
13 \$5,000,000 for grants under section 435(f) for each  
14 of fiscal years 2026 through 2029.”.

15 **SEC. 109. STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR YOUTH AGING**  
16 **OUT OF FOSTER CARE.**

17 (a) CASEWORKER VISITS.—Section 422(b)(17) (42  
18 U.S.C. 622(b)(17)) is amended by inserting “, and include  
19 a description of how the State may offer virtual case-  
20 worker visits to youth in care who have attained the age  
21 of 18 years and provided informed consent for virtual vis-  
22 its” before the semicolon.

23 (b) YOUTH AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN CHILD  
24 WELFARE PROGRAM PLANNING.—Section 432(b)(1) (42  
25 U.S.C. 629b(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:



1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ap-  
2           prove a plan that meets the requirements of sub-  
3           section (a) only if—

4                   “(A) the plan was developed jointly by the  
5           Secretary and the State, and the State, in de-  
6           veloping the plan, consulted with—

7                           “(i) appropriate public and nonprofit  
8                           private agencies;

9                           “(ii) community-based organizations  
10                          involved in providing services for children  
11                          and families in the areas of family preser-  
12                          vation, family support, family reunifica-  
13                          tion, foster care, kinship, and adoption  
14                          promotion and support;

15                          “(iii) parents with child welfare expe-  
16                          rience, foster parents, adoptive parents,  
17                          and kinship caregivers; and

18                          “(iv) children, youth, and young  
19                          adults with experience in the child welfare  
20                          system, including State boards and coun-  
21                          cils comprised of youth with lived experi-  
22                          ence who represent the diversity of chil-  
23                          dren in the State to whom the plan would  
24                          apply; and

1           “(B) the State has made publicly acces-  
2           sible on a website of the State agency a report  
3           that outlines how the State has implemented  
4           the suggestions of the children and youth re-  
5           ferred to in subparagraph (A)(iv).”.

6 **SEC. 110. RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIVE**  
7 **AND KINSHIP CAREGIVERS.**

8           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C.  
9 629a(a)), as amended by section 106(b)(2) of this Act,  
10 is amended—

11           (1) in paragraph (1)—

12           (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph

13           (A)—

14           (i) by striking “children” and insert-  
15           ing “children, youth,”; and

16           (ii) by striking “adoptive and ex-  
17           tended” and inserting “kinship and adop-  
18           tive”;

19           (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “par-  
20           ents and other caregivers (including foster par-  
21           ents)” and inserting “parents, kinship care-  
22           givers, and foster parents”;

23           (C) by striking “and” at the end of sub-  
24           paragraph (E);

1 (D) by striking the period at the end of  
2 subparagraph (F) and inserting “ ; and”; and

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

4 “(G)(i) peer-to-peer mentoring and support  
5 programs with demonstrated experience fos-  
6 tering constructive relationships between chil-  
7 dren and families and mentors with relevant  
8 lived experience or interactions with the child  
9 welfare system; and

10 “(ii) for purposes of this subpart, an ex-  
11 penditure for a service described in clause (i)  
12 may be treated as an expenditure for any 1 or  
13 more of family support services, family preser-  
14 vation services, family reunification services, or  
15 adoption promotion and support services, as  
16 long as the expenditure is related to serving the  
17 children and families in the specified category  
18 and consistent with the overall purpose of the  
19 category.”;

20 (2) in paragraph (2)(B)—

21 (A) in clause (i), by striking “children”  
22 and inserting “children, youth,”; and

23 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “extended”  
24 and inserting “kinship”;

1           (3) in paragraph (7)(A), by inserting “with kin-  
2           ship caregivers or” before “in a foster family home”;  
3           and

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

5           “(11) YOUTH.—The term ‘youth’ means an in-  
6           dividual who has not attained 26 years of age.”.

7           (b) KINSHIP NAVIGATORS.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 427 (42 U.S.C. 627)  
9           is amended—

10           (A) in the section heading, by striking  
11           “**FAMILY CONNECTION GRANTS**” and insert-  
12           ing “**KINSHIP NAVIGATORS**”;

13           (B) in subsection (a)—

14           (i) in the matter preceding paragraph  
15           (1), by striking “helping” and inserting  
16           “administering programs to help”;

17           (ii) by striking “of—” and all that  
18           follows through “a kinship” and inserting  
19           “of a kinship”;

20           (iii) in paragraph (1)(C)—

21           (I) by striking “and” at the end  
22           of clause (iii);

23           (II) by adding “and” at the end  
24           of clause (iv); and

1 (III) by adding at the end the  
2 following:

3 “(v) connections to individualized as-  
4 sistance, as needed;”;

5 (iv) by striking paragraphs (2)  
6 through (4);

7 (v) by redesignating subparagraphs  
8 (A) through (G) of paragraph (1) as para-  
9 graphs (1) through (7), respectively;

10 (vi) by redesignating clauses (i)  
11 through (iv) and clause (v) (as added by  
12 clause (iii)(III) of this subparagraph) as  
13 subparagraphs (A) through (E), respec-  
14 tively;

15 (vii) by moving each provision so re-  
16 designated 2 ems to the left; and

17 (viii) by striking “caregiving;” and in-  
18 serting “caregiving.”;

19 (C) in subsection (b)—

20 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “1 or  
21 more of”;

22 (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (3)  
23 and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respec-  
24 tively, and inserting after paragraph (2)  
25 the following:

1           “(3) a description of how the entity will directly  
2 fund, or provide data to the Secretary for, an eval-  
3 uation which will publish and submit information to  
4 the clearinghouse described in section 476(d)(2) and  
5 which is designed to meet the requirements of sec-  
6 tion 471(e)(4)(C), or a description of how the funds  
7 will be used to help the State transition to a pro-  
8 gram for which the State will seek reimbursement  
9 under section 474(a)(7);”;

10                   (iii) in paragraph (4) (as so redesign-  
11 nated), by striking “and” at the end;

12                   (iv) in paragraph (5) (as so redesign-  
13 nated), by striking the period and inserting  
14 “; and”; and

15                   (v) by adding at the end the following:

16           “(6) if the entity is a State, local or tribal child  
17 welfare agency—

18                   “(A) documentation of support from a rel-  
19 evant community-based organization with expe-  
20 rience serving kinship families when applicable;  
21 or

22                   “(B) a description of how the organization  
23 plans to coordinate its services and activities  
24 with those offered by the relevant community-  
25 based organizations.”;

1 (D) by striking subsection (d) and insert-  
2 ing the following:

3 “(d) FEDERAL SHARE.—An entity to which a grant  
4 is made under this section may use the grant to pay not  
5 more than 75 percent of the cost of the activities to be  
6 carried out by the entity pursuant to this section.”;

7 (E) in subsection (g)—

8 (i) by striking all that precedes “2  
9 percent” and inserting the following:

10 “(g) RESERVATION OF FUNDS FOR TECHNICAL AS-  
11 SISTANCE.—The Secretary may reserve”; and

12 (ii) by striking “subsection (h)” the  
13 2nd place it appears and inserting “section  
14 437(b)(6)”; and

15 (F) by striking subsection (h).

16 (2) RESERVATION OF DISCRETIONARY  
17 FUNDS.—Section 437(b) (42 U.S.C. 629g(b)), as  
18 amended by section 108(b) of this Act, is amended  
19 by adding at the end the following:

20 “(6) KINSHIP NAVIGATORS.—The Secretary  
21 shall reserve \$10,000,000 for grants under section  
22 427 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029.”.

23 (3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
24 474(a)(7) (42 U.S.C. 674(a)(7)) is amended by  
25 striking “427(a)(1)” and inserting “427(a)”.

1 **SEC. 111. AVOIDING NEGLECT BY ADDRESSING POVERTY.**

2 (a) FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES.—Section  
3 431(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)(1)), as amended by section  
4 110(a)(1) of this Act, is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and”  
6 after the semicolon;

7 (2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period  
8 and inserting “; and”; and

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

10 “(H)(i) services providing nonrecurring  
11 short term benefits (including supports related  
12 to housing instability, utilities, transportation,  
13 and food assistance, among other basic needs)  
14 that address immediate needs related to a spe-  
15 cific crisis, situation, or event affecting the abil-  
16 ity of a child to remain in a home established  
17 for the child that is not intended to meet an on-  
18 going need; and

19 “(ii) for purposes of this subpart, an ex-  
20 penditure for a service described in clause (i)  
21 may be treated as an expenditure for any 1 or  
22 more of family support services, family preser-  
23 vation services, family reunification services, or  
24 adoption promotion and support services as  
25 long as the expenditure is related to serving the  
26 children and families in the specified category



1           and consistent with the overall purpose of the  
2           category.”.

3           (b) STATE PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Section 432(a)  
4 (42 U.S.C. 629b(a)) is amended—

5           (1) in paragraph (9), by striking “and” after  
6           the semicolon;

7           (2) in paragraph (10), by striking the period  
8           and inserting “; and”; and

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

10           “(11) provides a description of policies in place,  
11           including training for employees, to address child  
12           welfare reports and investigations of neglect con-  
13           cerning the living arrangements or subsistence needs  
14           of a child with the goal to prevent the separation of  
15           a child from a parent of the child solely due to pov-  
16           erty, to ensure access to services described in section  
17           431(a)(1)(H).”.

18 **SEC. 112. STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR CASEWORKERS.**

19           (a) REAUTHORIZATION OF, AND INCREASE IN FUND-  
20           ING FOR, CASEWORKER VISITS.—Section 436(b)(4)(A)  
21           (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(4)(A)) is amended by striking “each  
22           of fiscal years 2017 through 2023” and inserting “fiscal  
23           year 2025 and \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2026 and each  
24           succeeding fiscal year”.

1 (b) MINIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—Section 433(e) (42  
2 U.S.C. 629c(e)) is amended by striking paragraphs (1)  
3 and (2) and inserting the following:

4 “(1) BASE ALLOTMENT.—From the amount re-  
5 served pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fis-  
6 cal year, the Secretary shall first allot to each State  
7 (other than an Indian tribe) that has provided to the  
8 Secretary such documentation as may be necessary  
9 to verify that the jurisdiction has complied with sec-  
10 tion 436(b)(4)(B)(ii) during the fiscal year, a base  
11 allotment of \$100,000, and shall then allot to each  
12 of those States an amount determined in paragraph  
13 (2) or (3) of this subsection, as applicable.

14 “(2) TERRITORIES.—From the amount reserved  
15 pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fiscal year  
16 that remains after applying paragraph (1) of this  
17 subsection for the fiscal year, the Secretary shall  
18 allot to each jurisdiction specified in subsection (b)  
19 of this section to which a base allotment is made  
20 under such paragraph (1) an amount determined in  
21 the same manner as the allotment to each of such  
22 jurisdictions is determined under section 423 (with-  
23 out regard to the initial allotment of \$70,000 to  
24 each State).

1           “(3) OTHER STATES.—From the amount re-  
2           served pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fis-  
3           cal year that remains after applying paragraphs (1)  
4           and (2) of this subsection for the fiscal year, the  
5           Secretary shall allot to each State (other than an In-  
6           dian tribe) not specified in subsection (b) of this sec-  
7           tion to which a base allotment was made under  
8           paragraph (1) of this subsection an amount equal to  
9           such remaining amount multiplied by the supple-  
10          mental nutrition assistance program benefits per-  
11          centage of the State (as defined in subsection (c)(2)  
12          of this section) for the fiscal year, except that in ap-  
13          plying subsection (c)(2)(A) of this section, ‘sub-  
14          section (e)(3)’ shall be substituted for ‘such para-  
15          graph (1)’.”.

16          (c) REQUIREMENT TO USE FUNDS TO IMPROVE  
17          QUALITY OF CASEWORKER VISITS WITH FOSTER CHIL-  
18          DREN.—Section 436(b)(4)(B)(i) (42 U.S.C.  
19          629f(b)(4)(B)(i)) is amended to read as follows:

20                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—A State to which  
21                   an amount is paid from amounts reserved  
22                   under subparagraph (A) shall use the  
23                   amount to improve the quality of monthly  
24                   caseworker visits with children who are in

1 foster care under the responsibility of the  
2 State, with an emphasis on—

3 “(I) reducing caseload ratios and  
4 the administrative burden on case-  
5 workers, to improve caseworker deci-  
6 sion making on the safety, perma-  
7 nency, and well-being of foster chil-  
8 dren and on activities designed to in-  
9 crease retention, recruitment, and  
10 training of caseworkers;

11 “(II) implementing technology  
12 solutions to streamline caseworker du-  
13 ties and modernize systems, ensuring  
14 improved efficiency and effectiveness  
15 in child welfare services;

16 “(III) improving caseworker safe-  
17 ty;

18 “(IV) mental health resources to  
19 support caseworker well-being, includ-  
20 ing peer-to-peer support programs;  
21 and

22 “(V) recruitment campaigns  
23 aimed at attracting qualified case-  
24 worker candidates.”.

1 (d) ELIMINATION OF COST-SHARE PENALTY TIED TO  
2 MONTHLY CASEWORKER VISIT STANDARD.—Section  
3 424(f) (42 U.S.C. 624(f)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “(1)(A)”; and

5 (2) by striking paragraphs (1)(B) and (2).

6 **SEC. 113. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FOR IMPROVING RE-**  
7 **LATIONSHIPS BETWEEN INCARCERATED**  
8 **PARENTS AND CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 439 (42 U.S.C. 629i) is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 **“SEC. 439. STATE PARTNERSHIP PLANNING AND DEM-**  
12 **ONSTRATION GRANTS TO SUPPORT MEAN-**  
13 **INGFUL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN FOSTER**  
14 **CHILDREN AND THE INCARCERATED PAR-**  
15 **ENTS OF THE CHILDREN.**

16 “(a) AUTHORITY.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make  
18 demonstration grants to eligible State partnerships  
19 to develop, implement, and provide support for pro-  
20 grams that enable and sustain meaningful relation-  
21 ships between covered foster children and the incar-  
22 cerated parents of the children.

23 “(2) PAYMENT OF ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS.—

24 The Secretary shall pay each demonstration grant in  
25 5 annual installments.

1           “(3) 1-YEAR PLANNING GRANTS.—The Sec-  
2           retary may make a planning grant to a recipient of  
3           a demonstration grant, to be paid to the recipient 1  
4           year before payment of the 1st annual installment of  
5           the demonstration grant and in an amount not  
6           greater than any installment of the demonstration  
7           grant, if—

8                   “(A) the recipient includes a request for a  
9                   planning grant in the application under sub-  
10                  section (c); and

11                  “(B) the Secretary determines that a plan-  
12                  ning grant would assist the recipient and im-  
13                  prove the effectiveness of the demonstration  
14                  grant.

15           “(b) ELIGIBLE STATE PARTNERSHIP DEFINED.—

16                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term  
17                   ‘eligible State partnership’ means an agreement en-  
18                   tered into by, at a minimum, the following:

19                           “(A) The State child welfare agency re-  
20                           sponsible for the administration of the State  
21                           plans under this part.

22                           “(B) The State agency responsible for  
23                           adult corrections.

24                   “(2) ADDITIONAL PARTNERS.—For purposes of  
25                   this section, an eligible State partnership may in-

1       clude any entity with experience in serving incarcerated  
2       ated parents and their children.

3               “(3) PARTNERSHIPS ENTERED INTO BY INDIAN  
4       TRIBES OR TRIBAL CONSORTIA.—Notwithstanding  
5       paragraph (1), if an Indian tribe or tribal consor-  
6       tium enters into a partnership pursuant to this sec-  
7       tion that does not consist solely of tribal child wel-  
8       fare agencies (or a consortium of the agencies), the  
9       partnership shall be considered an eligible State  
10      partnership for purposes of this section.

11      “(c) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible  
12      State partnership seeking a demonstration grant under  
13      this section to carry out a program described in subsection  
14      (a)(1) shall submit an application to the Secretary at such  
15      time, in such manner, and containing such information as  
16      the Secretary may require. The application shall include  
17      the following:

18              “(1) A summary of the program, including how  
19      the program will support a meaningful relationship  
20      between a covered foster child and an incarcerated  
21      parent of the child.

22              “(2) A description of the activities to be carried  
23      out by the program, which must include all of the  
24      activities described in subsection (d) that are in the  
25      best interest of the covered foster child.

1           “(3) A framework for identifying—

2                   “(A) each covered foster child eligible for  
3 services under the program, including, to the  
4 extent practicable, coordination of data between  
5 relevant State child welfare agencies and court  
6 systems; and

7                   “(B) the roles and responsibilities of the  
8 entities in the partnership.

9           “(4) Documentation that the applicant is an eli-  
10 gible State partnership.

11           “(5) Assurances that the applicant will partici-  
12 pate fully in the evaluation described in subsection  
13 (f)(2) and shall maintain records for the program,  
14 including demographic information disaggregated by  
15 relevant characteristics with respect to covered foster  
16 children and incarcerated parents who participate in  
17 the program.

18           “(d) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—To the extent that the  
19 activities are in the best interest of the covered foster  
20 child, the activities referred to in subsection (c)(2) shall  
21 include the following:

22                   “(1) REVISION OF POLICIES.—Through con-  
23 sultation with incarcerated parents and their fami-  
24 lies, grantees shall promote organizational policies of  
25 participating child welfare entities and collaborating



1 correctional facilities to promote meaningful rela-  
2 tionships through regular and developmentally ap-  
3 propriate communication and visitation between cov-  
4 ered foster children and the incarcerated parents, in-  
5 cluding, when appropriate, the following:

6 “(A) For child welfare entities—

7 “(i) inclusion of parents in case plan-  
8 ning and decision making for children;

9 “(ii) regular sharing of information  
10 and responses to requests for information  
11 between caseworkers and incarcerated par-  
12 ents with respect to the case information  
13 of a child, any changes to a case, perma-  
14 nency plans, requirements to maintain pa-  
15 rental rights, and any efforts to terminate  
16 parental rights;

17 “(iii) appropriate opportunities for in-  
18 carcerated parents to demonstrate their re-  
19 lationship with a covered foster child given  
20 their incarceration, including training and  
21 courses required for a service plan; and

22 “(iv) the enhanced visitation described  
23 in paragraph (2).

1           “(B) For correctional facilities, fostering  
2           visitation and communication that is develop-  
3           mentally appropriate in terms of—  
4           “(i) the nature of communication and  
5           visitation, including—  
6           “(I) the ability to physically  
7           touch parents;  
8           “(II) engaging with parents in lo-  
9           cations that are appropriate for the  
10          age and development of the child;  
11          “(III) exchanging items that are  
12          appropriate to the age and develop-  
13          ment of the child, include expectations  
14          that are appropriate for the age and  
15          development of the child related to be-  
16          havior, attire, and wait times; and  
17          “(IV) allowing appropriate adults  
18          to bring children if legal guardians  
19          are not available to promote regular  
20          contact;  
21          “(ii) reasonable inclusion of all chil-  
22          dren of the parent;  
23          “(iii) communication and visitation at  
24          times when the children are available;

1                   “(iv) security procedures to comfort  
2                   children and be minimally invasive; and

3                   “(v) promoting parent-child relation-  
4                   ships regardless of the sentence imposed  
5                   on the parent.

6                   “(2) ENHANCED VISITATION.—

7                   “(A) Grantees shall facilitate weekly com-  
8                   munication and, for at least 9 days each year,  
9                   in-person visitation between a covered foster  
10                  child and any incarcerated parent of the child.

11                  “(B) Electronic visitation (such as live  
12                  video visits, phone calls, and recorded books)  
13                  may be used but shall not be the sole method  
14                  to promote a meaningful relationship for pur-  
15                  poses of the grant.

16                  “(C) Enhanced visitation programs shall—

17                         “(i) integrate best practices for visita-  
18                         tion programs with incarcerated parents  
19                         and their children;

20                         “(ii) adopt developmentally appro-  
21                         priate visitation policies and procedures  
22                         such as those described in paragraph  
23                         (1)(B);

24                         “(iii) reduce or eliminate the cost of  
25                         developmentally appropriate communica-

1                   tion and visitation for the covered foster  
2                   child, which may include the purchase of  
3                   communication technology, covering trans-  
4                   portation, insurance, and lodging costs,  
5                   costs related to providing appropriate visi-  
6                   tation spaces and activities, and other rel-  
7                   evant costs;

8                   “(iv) to the extent practicable, inte-  
9                   grate appropriate parenting education to  
10                  help prepare and process visits; and

11                  “(v) avoid restricting visitation and  
12                  communication as a punishment for the in-  
13                  carcerated parents.

14                  “(3) TRAINING.—Grantees shall incorporate on-  
15                  going training for child welfare workers, correctional  
16                  facility staff, and other program providers to under-  
17                  stand the importance of promoting meaningful rela-  
18                  tionships between children and incarcerated parents.

19                  “(4) CASE MANAGEMENT.—Grantees shall pro-  
20                  vide case management services for the incarcerated  
21                  parents of a covered foster child to promote the rela-  
22                  tionship, access to services, and coordination with  
23                  the caseworkers of the covered foster child to  
24                  strengthen the relationship.

1           “(5) LEGAL ASSISTANCE.—Grantees shall facili-  
2           tate access to necessary legal services and may use  
3           grant funds for services that are not reimbursable  
4           under other Federal programs.

5           “(e) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the  
6           cost of any activity carried out using a grant made under  
7           this section shall be not greater than 75 percent.

8           “(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, EVALUATIONS, AND  
9           REPORTS.—

10           “(1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary  
11           shall provide technical assistance with respect to  
12           grants under this section, including by—

13                   “(A) assisting grantees in understanding  
14                   best practices in promoting meaningful relation-  
15                   ships between incarcerated parents and their  
16                   children as well as consulting with appropriate  
17                   stakeholders when developing their programs;

18                   “(B) assisting grantees with establishing  
19                   and analyzing implementation and performance  
20                   indicators; and

21                   “(C) conducting an annual technical assist-  
22                   ance and training meeting and an annual grant-  
23                   ee meeting so that grantees can learn from the  
24                   experiences of other grantees.

1           “(2) EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall con-  
2           duct an evaluation of program outcomes, including  
3           with respect to parent and child well-being, parent-  
4           child interactions, parental involvement, awareness  
5           of child development and parenting practices, place-  
6           ment stability, and termination of parental rights  
7           with respect to covered foster children and incarcer-  
8           ated parents, to measure program effectiveness, as  
9           determined by the Secretary, and identify opportuni-  
10          ties for improved program practices and implemen-  
11          tation.

12           “(3) REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.—

13           “(A) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 3  
14           years after the date of the enactment of this  
15           section, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-  
16           mittee on Ways and Means of the House of  
17           Representatives and the Committee on Finance  
18           of the Senate a report that includes—

19                   “(i) the number of applications for  
20                   grants under this section;

21                   “(ii) the number of grants awarded,  
22                   and the amounts for each grant; and

23                   “(iii) information on the grants, in-  
24                   cluding—

1 “(I) interim results of the evalua-  
2 tion described in paragraph (2);

3 “(II) disaggregated data on cov-  
4 ered foster children and incarcerated  
5 parents;

6 “(III) information on the com-  
7 position of eligible State partnerships;

8 “(IV) best practices for facili-  
9 tating meaningful relationships be-  
10 tween covered foster children and in-  
11 carcerated parents; and

12 “(V) barriers to implementation  
13 or expansion of programs funded  
14 under this section.

15 “(B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 6  
16 years after the date of the enactment of this  
17 section, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-  
18 mittee on Ways and Means of the House of  
19 Representatives and the Committee on Finance  
20 of the Senate a report that includes—

21 “(i) the final results of the evaluation  
22 described in paragraph (2); and

23 “(ii) recommendations for refinements  
24 to grant requirements to improve program  
25 outcomes.

1           “(g) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY WITH RESPECT TO  
2 INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

3           “(1) WAIVER OR MODIFICATION OF REQUIRE-  
4 MENTS.—In making a grant to an Indian tribe or  
5 tribal organization under this section, the Secretary  
6 may waive the matching requirement of subsection  
7 (e) or modify an application requirement imposed by  
8 or under subsection (c) if the Secretary determines  
9 that the waiver or modification is appropriate to the  
10 needs, culture, and circumstances of the Indian tribe  
11 or tribal organization.

12           “(2) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall use  
13 tribally relevant data in carrying out the evaluation  
14 under subsection (f)(2) with respect to an Indian  
15 tribe or tribal organization.

16           “(h) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPRO-  
17 PRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the  
18 Secretary not more than \$35,000,000 for each of fiscal  
19 years 2026 through 2029 to carry out this section.

20           “(i) DEFINITION OF COVERED FOSTER CHILD.—In  
21 this section, the term ‘covered foster child’ means a child  
22 that—

23           “(1) is in foster care; and

24           “(2) has at least 1 parent incarcerated in a  
25 Federal, State, or local correctional facility.”.



1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

2 (1) Section 431(a)(2)(B)(vii) (42 U.S.C.  
3 629a(a)(2)(B)(vii)) is amended by striking “(as de-  
4 fined in section 439(b)(2))”.

5 (2) Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)), as  
6 amended by sections 106(b)(2) and 110(a)(4) of this  
7 Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

8 “(12) MENTORING.—The term ‘mentoring’  
9 means a structured, managed program in which chil-  
10 dren are appropriately matched with screened and  
11 trained adult volunteers for one on-one relationships,  
12 involving meetings and activities on a regular basis,  
13 intended to meet, in part, the child’s need for in-  
14 volvement with a caring and supportive adult who  
15 provides a positive role model.”.

16 **SEC. 114. GUIDANCE TO STATES ON IMPROVING DATA COL-**  
17 **LECTION AND REPORTING FOR YOUTH IN**  
18 **RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS.**

19 Within 2 years after the date of the enactment of this  
20 Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in con-  
21 sultation with the Department of Education, the Adminis-  
22 tration for Children and Families, the Centers for Medi-  
23 care and Medicaid Services, the Administration for Com-  
24 munity Living, the Department of Justice, and other rel-  
25 evant policy experts, as determined by the Secretary, shall

1 issue and disseminate, or update and revise, as applicable,  
2 guidance to State agencies in administering State plans  
3 approved under parts B and E of title IV of the Social  
4 Security Act on the following:

5 (1) Best practices for Federal and State agen-  
6 cies to collect data and share information related to  
7 the well-being of youth residing in residential treat-  
8 ment facilities, including those facilities operating in  
9 multiple States or serving out-of-state youth.

10 (2) Best practices on improving State collection  
11 and sharing of data related to incidences of mal-  
12 treatment of youth residing in residential treatment  
13 facilities, including with respect to meeting the re-  
14 quirement of section 471(a)(9)(A) of such Act for  
15 such youth in foster care.

16 (3) Best practices on improving oversight of  
17 youth residential programs receiving Federal fund-  
18 ing, and research-based strategies for risk assess-  
19 ment related to the health, safety, and well-being of  
20 youth in the facilities.

21 **SEC. 115. STREAMLINING RESEARCH, TRAINING, AND**  
22 **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING.**

23 (a) REPURPOSING DISCRETIONARY RESEARCH SET-  
24 ASIDE.—Section 435(c) (42 U.S.C. 629e(c)) is amended  
25 to read as follows:

1           “(c) EVALUATION, RESEARCH, AND TECHNICAL AS-  
2   SISTANCE WITH RESPECT TO TARGETED PROGRAM RE-  
3   SOURCES.—Of the amount reserved under section  
4   437(b)(1) for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall use not less  
5   than—

6           “(1) \$1,000,000 for technical assistance to  
7       grantees under section 437(f) and to support design  
8       of local site evaluations with the goal of publishing  
9       and submitting evaluation findings to the clearing-  
10      house established under section 476(d), or to award  
11      grants to allow current or former grantees under  
12      section 437(f) to analyze, publish, and submit to the  
13      clearinghouse data collected during past grants; and

14          “(2) \$1,000,000 for technical assistance re-  
15      quired under section 429B of this Act to support ef-  
16      fective implementation of the Indian Child Welfare  
17      Act of 1978 and to support development of associ-  
18      ated State plan measures described pursuant to sec-  
19      tion 422(b)(9) of this Act.”.

20          (b) ELIMINATION OF RESEARCH SET-ASIDE FROM  
21   MANDATORY FUNDS.—

22           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 436(b) (42 U.S.C.  
23       629f(b)), as amended by the preceding provisions of  
24       this Act, is amended by striking paragraph (1) and

1 redesignating paragraphs (2) through (5) as para-  
2 graphs (1) through (4), respectively.

3 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

4 (A) Section 433(a) (42 U.S.C. 629c(a)) is  
5 amended by striking “436(b)(3)” and inserting  
6 “436(b)(2)”.

7 (B) Section 433(e) (42 U.S.C. 629c(e)), as  
8 amended by section 112(b) of this Act, is  
9 amended by striking “436(b)(4)(A)” and insert-  
10 ing “436(b)(3)(A)” each place it appears.

11 (C) Section 434(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C.  
12 629d(a)(2)(A)) is amended by striking  
13 “436(b)(4)(B)” and inserting “436(b)(3)(B)”.

14 (D) Section 437(b)(1) (42 U.S.C.  
15 629g(b)(1)) is amended by striking “436(b)(1)”  
16 and inserting “435”.

17 (E) Section 437(f)(3) (42 U.S.C.  
18 629g(f)(3)) is amended by striking “436(b)(5)”  
19 and inserting “436(b)(4)”.

20 (F) Section 438(c) (42 U.S.C. 629g(c)) is  
21 amended in each of paragraphs (1) through (3)  
22 is amended by striking “436(b)(2)” and insert-  
23 ing “436(b)(1)”.

1 **SEC. 116. REPORT ON POST ADOPTION AND SUBSIDIZED**  
2 **GUARDIANSHIP SERVICES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Within 2 years after the date of  
4 the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and  
5 Human Services shall prepare and submit to the Com-  
6 mittee on Ways and Means of the House of Representa-  
7 tives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report  
8 on children who enter into foster care under the super-  
9 vision of a State administering a plan approved under part  
10 B or E of title IV of the Social Security Act after finaliza-  
11 tion of an adoption or legal guardianship.

12 (b) INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall include in  
13 the report information, to the extent available through the  
14 Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System  
15 and other data sources, regarding the incidence of adop-  
16 tion disruption and dissolution affecting children described  
17 in subsection (a) and factors associated with such cir-  
18 cumstances, including—

19 (1) whether affected individuals received pre- or  
20 post-legal adoption services; and

21 (2) other relevant information, such as the age  
22 of the child involved.

23 (c) POST-ADOPTION SERVICES AND GUARDIAN-  
24 SHIP.—The Secretary shall include in the report—

25 (1) a summary of post-adoption services and  
26 guardianship in each State that are available to fam-

1 ilies that adopted children from foster care and the  
2 extent to which the services are evidence-based or  
3 evidence-informed.

4 (2) a summary of funding and funding sources  
5 for the services in each State, including set-asides  
6 under the Promoting Safe and Stable Families pro-  
7 gram.

8 **SEC. 117. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this  
10 title shall take effect on October 1, 2025, and shall apply  
11 to payments under part B of title IV of the Social Security  
12 Act for calendar quarters beginning on or after such date.

13 (b) DELAY PERMITTED IF STATE LEGISLATION RE-  
14 QUIRED.—If the Secretary of Health and Human Services  
15 determines that State legislation (other than legislation  
16 appropriating funds) is required in order for a State plan  
17 developed pursuant to part B of title IV of the Social Se-  
18 curity Act to meet the additional requirements imposed  
19 by the amendments made by this title, the plan shall not  
20 be regarded as failing to meet any of the additional re-  
21 quirements before the 1st day of the 1st calendar quarter  
22 beginning after the first regular session of the State legis-  
23 lature that begins after the date of the enactment of this  
24 Act. For purposes of the preceding sentence, if the State  
25 has a 2-year legislative session, each year of the session

1 is deemed to be a separate regular session of the State  
2 legislature.

3 (c) APPLICATION TO PROGRAMS OPERATED BY IN-  
4 DIAN TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—In the case of an Indian  
5 tribe, tribal organization, or tribal consortium that the  
6 Secretary of Health and Human Services determines re-  
7 quires time to take action necessary to comply with the  
8 additional requirements imposed by the amendments made  
9 by this Act (whether the tribe, organization, or tribal con-  
10 sortium has a plan under section 479B of the Social Secu-  
11 rity Act or a cooperative agreement or contract entered  
12 into with a State), the Secretary shall provide the tribe,  
13 organization, or tribal consortium with such additional  
14 time as the Secretary determines is necessary for the tribe,  
15 organization, or tribal consortium to take the action to  
16 comply with the additional requirements before being re-  
17 garded as failing to comply with the requirements.

18 **TITLE II—STRENGTHENING**  
19 **STATE AND TRIBAL CHILD**  
20 **SUPPORT**

21 **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

22 This title may be cited as the “Strengthening State  
23 and Tribal Child Support Enforcement Act”.

1 **SEC. 202. IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TRIBAL**  
2 **CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.**

3 (a) IMPROVING THE COLLECTION OF PAST-DUE  
4 CHILD SUPPORT THROUGH STATE AND TRIBAL PARITY  
5 IN THE ALLOWABLE USE OF TAX INFORMATION.—

6 (1) AMENDMENT TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY  
7 ACT.—Section 464 of the Social Security Act (42  
8 U.S.C. 664) is amended by adding at the end the  
9 following:

10 “(d) APPLICABILITY TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL  
11 ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING A GRANT UNDER THIS  
12 PART.—This section, except for the requirement to dis-  
13 tribute amounts in accordance with section 457, shall  
14 apply to an Indian tribe or tribal organization receiving  
15 a grant under section 455(f) in the same manner in which  
16 this section applies to a State with a plan approved under  
17 this part.”.

18 (2) AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE  
19 CODE.—

20 (A) Section 6103(a)(2) of the Internal  
21 Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking  
22 “any local child support enforcement agency”  
23 and inserting “any tribal or local child support  
24 enforcement agency”.

25 (B) Section 6103(a)(3) of such Code is  
26 amended by inserting “, (8)” after “(6)”.



1 (C) Section 6103(l) of such Code is  
2 amended—

3 (i) in paragraph (6)—

4 (I) by striking “or local” in sub-  
5 paragraph (A) and inserting “tribal,  
6 or local”;

7 (II) by striking “AND LOCAL” in  
8 the heading thereof and inserting  
9 “TRIBAL, AND LOCAL”;

10 (III) by striking “The following”  
11 in subparagraph (B) and inserting  
12 “The”;

13 (IV) by striking the colon and all  
14 that follows in subparagraph (B) and  
15 inserting a period; and

16 (V) by adding at the end the fol-  
17 lowing:

18 “(D) STATE, TRIBAL, OR LOCAL CHILD  
19 SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—For pur-  
20 poses of this paragraph, the following shall be  
21 treated as a State, tribal, or local child support  
22 enforcement agency:

23 “(i) Any agency of a State or political  
24 subdivision thereof operating pursuant to a  
25 plan described in section 454 of the Social

1 Security Act which has been approved by  
2 the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
3 ices under part D of title IV of such Act.

4 “(ii) Any child support enforcement  
5 agency of an Indian tribe or tribal organi-  
6 zation receiving a grant under section  
7 455(f) of the Social Security Act.”;

8 (ii) in paragraph (8)—

9 (I) in subparagraph (A), by strik-  
10 ing “or State or local” and inserting  
11 “, State, tribal, or local”;

12 (II) in subparagraph (B), by  
13 striking “enforced pursuant to a plan  
14 described” and all that follows  
15 through “of such Act” and inserting  
16 “enforced pursuant to the provisions  
17 of part D of title IV of the Social Se-  
18 curity Act”;

19 (III) by adding at the end of sub-  
20 paragraph (B) the following: “The in-  
21 formation disclosed to any child sup-  
22 port enforcement agency under sub-  
23 paragraph (A) with respect to any in-  
24 dividual with respect to whom child  
25 support obligations are sought to be

1 established or enforced may be dis-  
2 closed by such agency to any agent of  
3 such agency which is under contract  
4 with such agency for purposes of, and  
5 to the extent necessary in, estab-  
6 lishing and collecting child support  
7 obligations from, and locating, individ-  
8 uals owing such obligations.”;

9 (IV) by striking subparagraph  
10 (C) and inserting the following:

11 “(C) STATE, TRIBAL, OR LOCAL CHILD  
12 SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—For pur-  
13 poses of this paragraph, the term ‘State, tribal,  
14 or local child support enforcement agency’ has  
15 the same meaning as when used in paragraph  
16 (6)(D).”; and

17 (V) by striking “AND LOCAL” in  
18 the heading thereof and inserting  
19 “TRIBAL, AND LOCAL”; and

20 (iii) in paragraph (10)(B), by adding  
21 at the end the following new clause:

22 “(iii) The information disclosed to any  
23 child support enforcement agency under  
24 subparagraph (A) with respect to any indi-  
25 vidual with respect to whom child support

1 obligations are sought to be established or  
2 enforced may be disclosed by such agency  
3 to any agent of such agency which is under  
4 contract with such agency for purposes of,  
5 and to the extent necessary in, establishing  
6 and collecting child support obligations  
7 from, and locating, individuals owing such  
8 obligations.”.

9 (D) Section 6103(p)(4) of such Code is  
10 amended—

11 (i) by striking “subsection (l)(10),  
12 (13)(A), (13)(B), (13)(C), (13)(D)(i), (16),  
13 (18), (19), or (20), or any entity” in the  
14 matter preceding subparagraph (A) and in-  
15 serting “subsection (l)(6), (8), (10),  
16 (13)(A), (13)(B), (13)(C), (13)(D)(i), (16),  
17 (18), (19), or (20), or any Indian tribe or  
18 tribal organization receiving a grant under  
19 section 455(f) of the Social Security Act,  
20 or any entity”;

21 (ii) by striking “subsection (l)(10)” in  
22 subparagraph (F)(i) and inserting “sub-  
23 section (l)(6), (8), (10)”;

24 (iii) by striking “subsection (l)(10),  
25 (13)(A), (13)(B), (13)(C), (13)(D)(i), (16),

1 (18), (19), or (20) or any entity” each  
2 place it appears in the matter following  
3 subparagraph (F)(iii) and inserting “sub-  
4 section (l)(6), (8), (10), (13)(A), (13)(B),  
5 (13)(C), (13)(D)(i), (16), (18), (19), or  
6 (20), or any Indian tribe or tribal organi-  
7 zation receiving a grant under section  
8 455(f) of the Social Security Act, or any  
9 entity”; and

10 (iv) by inserting “, (8)” after “para-  
11 graph (6)(A)” in the matter following sub-  
12 paragraph (F)(iii).

13 (E) Section 6103(p)(9) of such Code is  
14 amended by striking “or local” and inserting  
15 “tribal, or local”.

16 (F) Section 6402(c) of such Code is  
17 amended by adding at the end the following:  
18 “For purposes of this subsection, any reference  
19 to a State shall include a reference to any In-  
20 dian tribe or tribal organization receiving a  
21 grant under section 455(f) of the Social Secu-  
22 rity Act.”.

23 (b) REIMBURSEMENT FOR REPORTS.—Section  
24 453(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(g)) is  
25 amended—

1           (1) in the subsection heading, by striking  
2           “STATE”; and

3           (2) by striking “and State” and inserting “,  
4           State, and tribal”.

5           (c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Paragraphs (7) and  
6           (33) of section 454 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
7           654) are each amended by striking “450b” and inserting  
8           “5304”.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to reauthorize child welfare programs under part B of title IV of the Social Security Act and strengthen the State and tribal child support enforcement program under part D of such title, and for other purposes.”.