

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To reauthorize the Head Start Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. DODD, and Mr. ALEXANDER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To reauthorize the Head Start Act, 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 “Head Start for School
5 Readiness Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

7 Section 636 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831)
8 is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 636. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

2 “It is the purpose of this subchapter to promote the
3 school readiness of low-income children by enhancing their
4 cognitive and social development—

5 “(1) with a learning environment that supports
6 cognitive development (including the growth of lan-
7 guage, pre-literacy, and premathematics skills) and
8 the growth of social, emotional, and physical skills;
9 and

10 “(2) through the provision to low-income chil-
11 dren and their families of health, educational, nutri-
12 tional, social, and other services that are determined,
13 based on family needs assessments, to be nec-
14 essary.”.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 Section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832)
17 is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “(including a
19 community-based organization, as defined in section
20 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education
21 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801))” after “nonprofit”;

22 (2) in paragraph (3)(C), by inserting “, includ-
23 ing financial literacy,” after “Parent literacy”;

24 (3) in paragraph (17), by striking “Mariana Is-
25 lands,” and all that follows and inserting “Mariana
26 Islands.”; and

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

2 “(18) The term ‘deficiency’ means—

3 “(A) a systemic or substantial material
4 failure of an agency in an area of performance
5 that the Secretary determines involves—

6 “(i) a threat to the health, safety, or
7 civil rights of children or staff;

8 “(ii) a denial to parents of the exer-
9 cise of their full roles and responsibilities
10 related to program operations;

11 “(iii) a failure to comply with stand-
12 ards related to early childhood development
13 and health services, family and community
14 partnerships, or program design and man-
15 agement;

16 “(iv) the misuse of funds under this
17 subchapter;

18 “(v) loss of legal status or financial
19 viability, loss of permits, debarment from
20 receiving Federal grants or contracts, or
21 the improper use of Federal funds; or

22 “(vi) failure to meet any other Fed-
23 eral or State requirement that the agency
24 has shown an unwillingness or inability to

1 correct, after notice from the Secretary,
2 within the period specified;

3 “(B) systemic failure of the board of direc-
4 tors of an agency to fully exercise its legal and
5 fiduciary responsibilities;

6 “(C) substantial failure of an agency to
7 meet the administrative requirements of section
8 644(b);

9 “(D) failure of an agency to demonstrate
10 that the agency attempted to meet the coordi-
11 nation and collaboration requirements with enti-
12 ties described in section 640(a)(5)(D)(ii)(I); or

13 “(E) having an unresolved area of non-
14 compliance.

15 “(19) The term ‘homeless child’ means a child
16 described in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento
17 Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)).

18 “(20) The term ‘institution of higher education’
19 has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of
20 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
21 1001(a)).

22 “(21) The term ‘interrater reliability’ means
23 the extent to which 2 or more independent raters or
24 observers consistently obtain the same result when
25 using the same assessment tool.

1 “(22) The term ‘limited English proficient’,
2 used with respect to a child, means a child—

3 “(A) who is enrolled or preparing to enroll
4 in a Head Start program, Early Head Start
5 program, or other early care and education pro-
6 gram;

7 “(B)(i) who was not born in the United
8 States or whose native language is a language
9 other than English;

10 “(ii)(I) who is a Native American, Alaska
11 Native, or a native resident of an outlying area
12 (as defined in section 9101 of the Elementary
13 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
14 U.S.C. 7801)); and

15 “(II) who comes from an environment
16 where a language other than English has had
17 a significant impact on the child’s level of
18 English language proficiency; or

19 “(iii) who is migratory, whose native lan-
20 guage is a language other than English, and
21 who comes from an environment where a lan-
22 guage other than English is dominant; and

23 “(C) whose difficulties in speaking or un-
24 derstanding the English language may be suffi-
25 cient to deny such child—

1 “(i) the ability to successfully achieve
2 in a classroom in which the language of in-
3 struction is English; or

4 “(ii) the opportunity to participate
5 fully in society.

6 “(23) The term ‘unresolved area of noncompli-
7 ance’ means failure to correct a noncompliance item
8 within 120 days, or within such additional time (if
9 any) authorized by the Secretary, after receiving
10 from the Secretary notice of such noncompliance
11 item, pursuant to section 641A(d).”.

12 **SEC. 4. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HEAD START PRO-**
13 **GRAMS.**

14 Section 638 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9833)
15 is amended by inserting “for a period of 5 years” after
16 “provide financial assistance to such agency”.

17 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 Section 639 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9834)
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 **“SEC. 639. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-
22 propriated for carrying out the provisions of this sub-
23 chapter \$7,350,000,000 for fiscal year 2008,
24 \$7,650,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, \$7,995,000,000 for

1 fiscal year 2010, and such sums as may be necessary for
2 each of fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

3 “(b) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—From the amount ap-
4 propriated under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make
5 available to carry out research, demonstration, and evalua-
6 tion activities, including longitudinal studies under section
7 649, not more than \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, and
8 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
9 2009 through 2012, of which not more than \$7,000,000
10 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 shall be avail-
11 able to carry out impact studies under section 649(g).”.

12 **SEC. 6. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.**

13 (a) ALLOTMENT.—Section 640(a) of the Head Start
14 Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(a)) is amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (2)—

16 (A) by striking subparagraph (A) and in-
17 serting the following:

18 “(A) Indian Head Start programs, services for
19 children with disabilities, and migrant and seasonal
20 Head Start programs, except that the Secretary
21 shall reserve for each fiscal year for use by Indian
22 Head Start and migrant and seasonal Head Start
23 programs (referred to in this paragraph as ‘covered
24 programs’), on a nationwide basis, a sum that is the
25 total of a percentage specified by the Secretary that

1 is not less than 4 percent of the amount appro-
2 priated under section 639 for that fiscal year (for
3 Indian Head Start programs) and a percentage
4 specified by the Secretary that is not less than 5
5 percent of that appropriated amount (for migrant
6 and seasonal Head Start programs) (referred to in
7 this paragraph as the ‘specified percentages’), except
8 that—

9 “(i) if reserving the specified percentages
10 would reduce the number of children served by
11 Head Start programs, relative to the number of
12 children served on the date of enactment of the
13 Head Start for School Readiness Act, taking
14 into consideration an appropriate adjustment
15 for inflation, the Secretary shall reserve per-
16 centages that approach, as closely as prac-
17 ticable, the specified percentages and that do
18 not cause such a reduction; and

19 “(ii) notwithstanding any other provision
20 of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall re-
21 serve for each fiscal year for use by Indian
22 Head Start programs and by migrant and sea-
23 sonal Head Start programs, on a nationwide
24 basis, not less than the amount that was obli-
25 gated for use by Indian Head Start programs

1 and by migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
2 grams for the previous fiscal year;”;

3 (B) by striking subparagraph (C) and in-
4 serting the following:

5 “(C) training and technical assistance activities
6 that are sufficient to meet the needs associated with
7 program expansion and to foster program and man-
8 agement improvement activities as described in sec-
9 tion 648, in an amount for each fiscal year that is
10 not less than 2 percent of the amount appropriated
11 under section 639 for such fiscal year, of which—

12 “(i) 50 percent shall be made available to
13 Head Start agencies to use directly, or by es-
14 tablishing local or regional agreements with
15 community experts, institutions of higher edu-
16 cation, or private consultants, for any of the
17 following training and technical assistance ac-
18 tivities, including—

19 “(I) activities that ensure that Head
20 Start programs meet or exceed the pro-
21 gram performance standards described in
22 section 641A(a)(1);

23 “(II) activities that ensure that Head
24 Start programs have adequate numbers of
25 trained, qualified staff who have skills in

1 working with children and families, includ-
2 ing children and families who are limited
3 English proficient and children with dis-
4 abilities;

5 “(III) activities to pay expenses, in-
6 cluding direct training for expert consult-
7 ants working with any staff, to improve the
8 management and implementation of Head
9 Start services and systems;

10 “(IV) activities that help ensure that
11 Head Start programs have qualified staff
12 who can promote language skills and lit-
13 eracy growth of children and who can pro-
14 vide children with a variety of skills that
15 have been identified as predictive of later
16 reading achievement, school success, and
17 the skills, knowledge, abilities, develop-
18 ment, and progress described in section
19 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii);

20 “(V) activities to improve staff quali-
21 fications and to assist with the implemen-
22 tation of career development programs and
23 to encourage the staff to continually im-
24 prove their skills and expertise, including
25 developing partnerships with programs

1 that recruit, train, place, and support col-
2 lege students in Head Start centers to de-
3 liver an innovative early learning program
4 to preschool children;

5 “(VI) activities that help local pro-
6 grams ensure that the arrangement, condi-
7 tion, and implementation of the learning
8 environments in Head Start programs are
9 conducive to providing effective program
10 services to children and families;

11 “(VII) activities to provide training
12 necessary to improve the qualifications of
13 Head Start staff and to support staff
14 training, child counseling, health services,
15 and other services necessary to address the
16 needs of children enrolled in Head Start
17 programs, including children from families
18 in crises, children who experience chronic
19 violence or homelessness, children who ex-
20 perience substance abuse in their families,
21 and children under 3 years of age, where
22 applicable;

23 “(VIII) activities to provide classes or
24 in-service-type programs to improve or en-
25 hance parenting skills, job skills, adult and

1 family literacy, including financial literacy,
2 or training to become a classroom aide or
3 bus driver in a Head Start program;

4 “(IX) additional activities deemed ap-
5 propriate to the improvement of Head
6 Start agencies’ programs, as determined by
7 the agencies’ technical assistance and
8 training plans; or

9 “(X) any other activities regarding
10 the use of funds as determined by the Sec-
11 retary;

12 “(ii) 50 percent shall be made available to
13 the Secretary—

14 “(I) to provide directly early childhood
15 education training and technical assistance
16 or to support, through grants or other ar-
17 rangements, a State system of early child-
18 hood education training and technical as-
19 sistance (which may include such a system
20 for a consortium of States within a re-
21 gion); and

22 “(II) to assist local programs (includ-
23 ing Indian Head Start programs and mi-
24 grant and seasonal Head Start programs)

1 in meeting the standards described in sec-
2 tion 641A(a)(1); and

3 “(iii) not less than \$3,000,000 of the
4 amount in clause (ii) appropriated for such fis-
5 cal year shall be made available to carry out ac-
6 tivities described in section 648(d)(4);”;

7 (C) in subparagraph (D), by striking
8 “agencies;” and inserting “agencies);”; and

9 (D) by adding at the end of the flush mat-
10 ter at the end the following: “In no case shall
11 the Secretary use funds appropriated under this
12 subchapter to expand or create additional slots
13 or services in non-Indian and non-migrant and
14 seasonal Head Start programs until the
15 amounts based on the specified percentages for
16 Indian Head Start programs and migrant and
17 seasonal Head Start programs pursuant to sub-
18 paragraph (A) are reached. The Secretary shall
19 require each Head Start agency to report at the
20 end of each budget year on how funds provided
21 to carry out subparagraph (C)(i) were used.”;

22 (2) in paragraph (3)—

23 (A) in subparagraph (A)(i)(I)—

1 (i) by striking “60 percent of such ex-
2 cess amount for fiscal year 1999” and all
3 that follows through “2003;” and

4 (ii) by inserting the following: “30
5 percent of such excess amount for fiscal
6 year 2008, and 40 percent of such excess
7 amount for each of fiscal years 2009
8 through 2012;”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

10 (i) in clause (i), by striking “perform-
11 ance standards” and all that follows and
12 inserting “standards and measures pursu-
13 ant to section 641A.”;

14 (ii) by striking clause (ii) and insert-
15 ing the following:

16 “(ii) Ensuring that such programs have ade-
17 quate numbers of qualified staff, and that such staff
18 is furnished adequate training, including training to
19 promote the development of language,
20 premathematics, and pre-literacy skills in young chil-
21 dren and in working with limited English proficient
22 children, children in foster care, children referred by
23 child welfare services, and children with disabilities,
24 when appropriate.”;

1 (iii) by striking clause (iii) and insert-
2 ing the following:

3 “(iii) Developing and financing the salary scales
4 and benefits standards under section 644(a) and
5 section 653, in order to ensure that salary levels and
6 benefits are adequate to attract and retain qualified
7 staff for such programs.”;

8 (iv) by striking clause (iv) and insert-
9 ing the following:

10 “(iv) Using salary increases to—

11 “(I) assist with the implementation of
12 quality programs and improve staff qualifica-
13 tions;

14 “(II) ensure that staff can promote the
15 language skills and literacy growth of children
16 and can provide children with a variety of skills
17 that have been identified, through scientifically
18 based early reading research, as predictive of
19 later reading achievement, as well as the skills,
20 knowledge, abilities, development, and progress
21 described in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii); and

22 “(III) encourage the staff to continually
23 improve their skills and expertise—

24 “(aa) through the implementation of
25 career development programs; and

1 “(bb) through the completion of post-
2 secondary coursework in early childhood
3 education.”;

4 (v) in clause (v)—

5 (I) by striking “community-wide”
6 and inserting “communitywide”; and

7 (II) by inserting “, including col-
8 laborations to increase program par-
9 ticipation by underserved populations
10 of eligible children” before the period;
11 and

12 (vi) by striking clauses (vii) and (viii)
13 and inserting the following:

14 “(vii) Providing assistance to complete postsec-
15 ondary coursework, to enable Head Start teachers to
16 improve competencies and the resulting child out-
17 comes, including informing the teachers of the avail-
18 ability of Federal and State incentive and loan for-
19 giveness programs.

20 “(viii) Promoting the regular attendance and
21 stability of all Head Start children with particular
22 attention to highly mobile children, including chil-
23 dren from migrant and seasonal farmworking fami-
24 lies (where appropriate), homeless children, and chil-
25 dren in foster care.

1 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) and to promote the acqui-
2 sition of the English language by such children
3 and families;” and

4 (IV) by striking subclause (IV)
5 and inserting the following:

6 “(IV) to provide education and training
7 necessary to improve the qualifications of Head
8 Start staff, particularly assistance to enable
9 more instructors to be fully competent and to
10 meet the degree requirements under section
11 648A(a)(2)(A), and to support staff training,
12 child counseling, and other services necessary to
13 address the challenges of children participating
14 in Head Start programs, including children
15 from immigrant, refugee, and asylee families,
16 children from families in crisis, homeless chil-
17 dren, children in foster care, children referred
18 to Head Start programs by child welfare agen-
19 cies, and children who are exposed to chronic
20 violence or substance abuse.”;

21 (iii) in clause (iii), by inserting “, edu-
22 cational staff who have the qualifications
23 described in section 648A(a),” after
24 “ratio”;

1 (iv) in clause (v), by striking “pro-
2 grams, including” and all that follows and
3 inserting “programs.”;

4 (v) by redesignating clause (vi) as
5 clause (x); and

6 (vi) by inserting after clause (v) the
7 following:

8 “(vi) To conduct outreach to homeless families
9 in an effort to increase the program participation of
10 eligible homeless children.

11 “(vii) To conduct outreach to migrant and sea-
12 sonal farmworking families and families with limited
13 English proficient children.

14 “(viii) To partner with institutions of higher
15 education and nonprofit organizations, including
16 community-based organizations, that recruit, train,
17 place, and support college students, to serve as men-
18 tors and reading partners to preschool children in
19 Head Start programs.

20 “(ix) To upgrade the qualifications and skills of
21 educational personnel to meet the professional
22 standards described in section 648A(a)(1), including
23 certification and licensure as bilingual education
24 teachers, teachers of English as a second language,

1 and for other educational personnel who serve lim-
2 ited English proficient students.”;

3 (3) in paragraph (4), in the first sentence—

4 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
5 “1998” and inserting “2007”; and

6 (B) by striking subparagraph (B) and in-
7 serting the following:

8 “(B) any amount available after all allotments
9 are made under subparagraph (A) for such fiscal
10 year shall be distributed as follows:

11 “(i) Each State shall receive an amount
12 sufficient to serve the same number of children
13 in Head Start programs in each State as were
14 served on the date of enactment of the Head
15 Start for School Readiness Act, taking into con-
16 sideration an appropriate adjustment for infla-
17 tion.

18 “(ii) After ensuring that each State has re-
19 ceived the amount described in clause (i), the
20 Secretary shall distribute the remaining bal-
21 ance, by—

22 “(I) distributing 65 percent of the
23 balance among the States serving less than
24 60 percent (as determined by the Sec-
25 retary) of children who are 3 or 4 years of

1 age from families whose income is below
2 the poverty line, by allotting to each of
3 those States an amount that bears the
4 same relationship to that 65 percent as the
5 number of children who are less than 5
6 years of age from families whose income is
7 below the poverty line (referred to in this
8 clause as ‘young low-income children’) in
9 that State bears to the number of young
10 low-income children in all those States;
11 and

12 “(II) distributing 35 percent of the
13 balance among the States, by allotting to
14 each State an amount that bears the same
15 relationship to that 35 percent as the num-
16 ber of young low-income children in that
17 State bears to the number of young low-in-
18 come children in all the States.”;

19 (4) in paragraph (5)—

20 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (E)
21 and (F) as subparagraphs (G) and (H), respec-
22 tively; and

23 (B) by striking subparagraphs (B), (C),
24 and (D) and inserting the following:

1 “(B)(i) From the reserved sums, the Secretary shall
2 award a collaboration grant to each State and to each na-
3 tional administrative office serving Indian Head Start pro-
4 grams and migrant and seasonal Head Start programs to
5 facilitate collaboration between Head Start agencies and
6 entities (including the State or national administrative of-
7 fice) that carry out other activities designed to benefit low-
8 income families and children from birth to school entry.
9 The national administrative offices shall use the funds
10 made available through the grants to carry out the au-
11 thorities and responsibilities described in subparagraphs
12 (B) and (C).

13 “(ii) Grants described in clause (i) shall be used to—

14 “(I) assist Head Start agencies to collaborate
15 with entities involved in State and local planning
16 processes to better meet the needs of low-income
17 families and children from birth to school entry;

18 “(II) assist Head Start agencies to coordinate
19 activities with the State agency responsible for ad-
20 ministering the State program carried out under the
21 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of
22 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) and entities providing
23 resource and referral services in the State, to make
24 full-working-day and full calendar year services
25 available to children;

1 “(III) promote alignment of Head Start serv-
2 ices with State early learning standards, as appro-
3 priate, and the Head Start Child Outcomes Frame-
4 work;

5 “(IV) promote better linkages between Head
6 Start agencies and other child and family agencies,
7 including agencies that provide health, mental
8 health, or family services, or other child or family
9 supportive services, such as services provided under
10 section 619 or part C of the Individuals with Dis-
11 abilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et
12 seq.); and

13 “(V) carry out the activities of the State Direc-
14 tor of Head Start Collaboration authorized in sub-
15 paragraph (D).

16 “(C) In order to improve coordination and delivery
17 of early education services to children in the State, a State
18 that receives a collaboration grant under subparagraph
19 (B) shall—

20 “(i) appoint or designate an individual to serve
21 as, or carry out the responsibilities of, the State Di-
22 rector of Head Start Collaboration;

23 “(ii) ensure that the State Director of Head
24 Start Collaboration holds a position with sufficient
25 authority and access to ensure that the collaboration

1 described in subparagraph (B) is effective and in-
2 volves a range of State agencies; and

3 “(iii) involve the State Head Start Association
4 in the selection of the Director and involve the Asso-
5 ciation in determinations relating to the ongoing di-
6 rection of the collaboration office.

7 “(D) The State Director of Head Start Collaboration,
8 reporting to the State Advisory Council described in sub-
9 paragraph (E), shall—

10 “(i) not later than 1 year after the State re-
11 ceives a collaboration grant under subparagraph (B),
12 conduct an assessment that—

13 “(I) addresses the needs of Head Start
14 agencies in the State with respect to collabora-
15 tion, coordination of services, and alignment of
16 services with State early learning standards, as
17 appropriate, and the Head Start Child Out-
18 comes Framework;

19 “(II) shall be updated on an annual basis;
20 and

21 “(III) shall be made available to the gen-
22 eral public within the State;

23 “(ii) develop a strategic plan that is based on
24 the assessment described in clause (i) that will—

1 “(I) enhance collaboration and coordina-
2 tion of Head Start services with other entities
3 providing early childhood programs and services
4 (such as child care or services offered by muse-
5 ums), health care, mental health care, welfare,
6 child protective services, education and commu-
7 nity service activities, family literacy services,
8 reading readiness programs (including such
9 programs offered by public and school librar-
10 ies), services relating to children with disabil-
11 ities, other early childhood programs and serv-
12 ices for limited English proficient children and
13 homeless children, and services provided for
14 children in foster care and children referred to
15 Head Start programs by child welfare agencies,
16 including agencies and State officials respon-
17 sible for such services;

18 “(II) assist Head Start agencies to develop
19 a plan for the provision of full-working-day, full
20 calendar year services for children enrolled in
21 Head Start programs who need such care;

22 “(III) assist Head Start agencies to align
23 services with State early learning standards, as
24 appropriate, and the Head Start Child Out-
25 comes Framework; and

1 “(IV) enable Head Start agencies in the
2 State to better access professional development
3 opportunities for Head Start staff, such as
4 by—

5 “(aa) working with local Head Start
6 agencies to meet the degree requirements
7 described in section 648A(a)(2)(A), includ-
8 ing providing distance learning opportuni-
9 ties for Head Start staff, where needed to
10 make higher education more accessible to
11 Head Start staff; and

12 “(bb) enabling the State Head Start
13 agencies to better conduct outreach to eli-
14 gible families;

15 “(iii) promote partnerships between Head Start
16 agencies, State and local governments, and the pri-
17 vate sector to help ensure that children from low-in-
18 come families, who are in Head Start programs or
19 are preschool age, are receiving comprehensive serv-
20 ices to prepare the children to enter school ready to
21 learn;

22 “(iv) consult with the chief State school officer,
23 local educational agencies, and providers of early
24 childhood education and care, regarding early care

1 and education services at both the State and local
2 levels;

3 “(v) promote partnerships (such as the partner-
4 ships involved with the Free to Grow initiative) be-
5 tween Head Start agencies, schools, law enforce-
6 ment, relevant community-based organizations, and
7 substance abuse and mental health treatment agen-
8 cies to strengthen family and community environ-
9 ments and to reduce the impact on child develop-
10 ment of substance abuse, child abuse, domestic vio-
11 lence, and other high risk behaviors that compromise
12 healthy development;

13 “(vi) promote partnerships between Head Start
14 agencies and other organizations in order to enhance
15 the Head Start curriculum, including partnerships
16 to promote inclusion of more books in Head Start
17 classrooms and partnerships to promote coordination
18 of activities with the Ready-to-Learn Television pro-
19 gram carried out under subpart 3 of part D of title
20 II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
21 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6775 et seq.); and

22 “(vii) identify other resources and organizations
23 (both public and private) for the provision of in-kind
24 services to Head Start agencies in the State.

25 “(E)(i) The Governor of the State shall—

1 “(I) designate or establish a council to serve as
2 the State advisory council on collaboration on early
3 care and education activities for children from birth
4 to school entry (in this subchapter referred to as the
5 ‘State Advisory Council’); and

6 “(II) designate an individual to coordinate ac-
7 tivities of the State Advisory Council, as described in
8 clause (iv)(I).

9 “(ii) The Governor may designate an existing entity
10 to serve as the State Advisory Council, if the entity in-
11 cludes representatives consistent with clause (iii).

12 “(iii) Members of the State Advisory Council shall in-
13 clude, to the maximum extent possible—

14 “(I) the State Director of Head Start Collabo-
15 ration;

16 “(II) a representative of the appropriate re-
17 gional office of the Administration for Children and
18 Families;

19 “(III) a representative of the State educational
20 agency and local educational agencies;

21 “(IV) a representative of institutions of higher
22 education;

23 “(V) a representative (or representatives) of the
24 State agency (or agencies) responsible for health or
25 mental health care;

1 “(VI) a representative of the State agency re-
2 sponsible for professional standards, certification,
3 and licensing for early childhood educators;

4 “(VII) a representative of the State agency re-
5 sponsible for child care;

6 “(VIII) early childhood educators, including
7 professionals with expertise in second language ac-
8 quisition and instructional strategies in teaching lim-
9 ited English proficient children;

10 “(IX) kindergarten teachers and teachers in
11 grades 1 through 3;

12 “(X) health care professionals;

13 “(XI) child development specialists, including
14 specialists in prenatal, infant, and toddler develop-
15 ment;

16 “(XII) a representative of the State agency re-
17 sponsible for assisting children with developmental
18 disabilities;

19 “(XIII) a representative of the State agency re-
20 sponsible for programs under section 619 or part C
21 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
22 (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.);

23 “(XIV) a representative of the State inter-
24 agency coordinating councils established under sec-

1 tion 641 of the Individuals with Disabilities Edu-
2 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1441);

3 “(XV) a representative of the State Head Start
4 Association (where appropriate), and other rep-
5 resentatives of Head Start programs in the State;

6 “(XVI) a representative of the State network of
7 child care resource and referral agencies;

8 “(XVII) a representative of community-based
9 organizations;

10 “(XVIII) a representative of State and local
11 providers of early childhood education and child
12 care;

13 “(XIX) a representative of Indian Head Start
14 programs (where appropriate) and a representative
15 of migrant and seasonal Head Start programs
16 (where appropriate);

17 “(XX) parents;

18 “(XXI) religious and business leaders;

19 “(XXII) the head of the State library adminis-
20 trative agency;

21 “(XXIII) representatives of State and local or-
22 ganizations and other entities providing professional
23 development to early care and education providers;

1 “(XXIV) a representative from the Office of
2 Coordinator for Education of Homeless Children and
3 Youths in the State;

4 “(XXV) a State legislator; and

5 “(XXVI) a representative of other entities de-
6 termined to be relevant by the Governor of the
7 State.

8 “(iv)(I) The State Advisory Council shall be respon-
9 sible for, in addition to responsibilities assigned to the
10 council by the Governor of the State—

11 “(aa) conducting a periodic statewide needs as-
12 sessment concerning early care and education pro-
13 grams for children from birth to school entry;

14 “(bb) identifying barriers to, and opportunities
15 for, collaboration and coordination among entities
16 carrying out federally-funded and State-funded child
17 development, child care, and early childhood edu-
18 cation programs;

19 “(cc) developing recommendations regarding
20 means of establishing a unified data collection sys-
21 tem for early care and education programs through-
22 out the State;

23 “(dd) developing a statewide professional devel-
24 opment and career ladder plan for early care and
25 education in the State;

1 “(ee) reviewing and approving the strategic
2 plan, regarding collaborating and coordinating serv-
3 ices to better serve children enrolled in Head Start
4 programs, developed by the State Director of Head
5 Start Collaboration under subparagraph (D)(iii);

6 “(ff) assessing the availability of high quality
7 prekindergarten services for low-income children in
8 the State;

9 “(gg) assisting 2- and 4-year public and private
10 institutions of higher education to develop articula-
11 tion agreements;

12 “(hh) awarding grants to assist institutions of
13 higher education to develop model early childhood
14 education programs, including practica or intern-
15 ships for students to spend time in a Head Start or
16 prekindergarten program; and

17 “(ii) undertaking collaborative efforts to de-
18 velop, and make recommendations for improvements
19 in, State early learning standards.

20 “(II) The State Advisory Council shall hold public
21 hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment
22 on the activities described in subclause (I). The State Ad-
23 visory Council shall submit a statewide strategic report ad-
24 dressing the activities described in subclause (I) to the

1 State Director of Head Start Collaboration and the Gov-
2 ernor of the State.

3 “(III) After submission of a statewide strategic re-
4 port under subclause (II), the State Advisory Council shall
5 meet periodically to review any implementation of the rec-
6 ommendations in such report and any changes in State
7 and local needs.

8 “(F)(i)(I) Prior to carrying out paragraph (4), the
9 Secretary shall reserve a portion to carry out this subpara-
10 graph for a fiscal year. The Secretary shall reserve the
11 portion from the amount (if any) by which the funds ap-
12 propriated under section 639(a) for the fiscal year exceed
13 the adjusted prior year appropriation (as defined in para-
14 graph (3)(A)(ii)), without reducing the share available for
15 quality improvement funds described in paragraph (3)(B).

16 “(II) To the extent consistent with subclause (I), the
17 Secretary shall reserve \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.
18 Funds reserved under this subclause shall remain avail-
19 able for obligation through fiscal year 2012.

20 “(ii) The Secretary shall use the portion reserved
21 under clause (i) to award, on a competitive basis, one-time
22 startup grants of not less than \$500,000 to eligible States
23 to enable such States to pay for the Federal share of the
24 cost of further developing and implementing the rec-
25 ommendations and plans for which the State’s State Advi-

1 sory Council is responsible under subparagraph (E)(iv)(I).

2 Such grants shall—

3 “(I) facilitate the development of high-quality
4 systems of early care and early education programs
5 and activities designed to improve school prepared-
6 ness;

7 “(II) increase and make effective use of existing
8 and new delivery systems and funds for early care
9 and early education; and

10 “(III) enhance existing early care and early
11 education services (in existence on the date on which
12 the grant involved is awarded).

13 “(iii) To be eligible to receive a grant under this sub-
14 paragraph, a State shall prepare and submit to the Sec-
15 retary an application, for a 3-year period, at such time,
16 in such manner, and containing such information as the
17 Secretary shall require, including—

18 “(I) a description of the State’s State Advisory
19 Council’s responsibilities under subparagraph
20 (E)(iv)(I);

21 “(II) a description, for each fiscal year, of how
22 the State will make effective use of funds available
23 under this subparagraph, with funds described in
24 clause (iv), to create an early childhood education

1 system, by developing or enhancing programs and
2 activities described in subparagraph (E)(iv)(I);

3 “(III) a description of the State early learning
4 standards and the State’s goals for increasing the
5 number of children entering kindergarten ready to
6 learn;

7 “(IV) information identifying the agency or
8 joint interagency office and individual designated to
9 carry out the activities under this subparagraph,
10 which may be the individual designated under sub-
11 paragraph (E)(i)(II); and

12 “(V) a description of how the State plans to
13 sustain activities under this subparagraph beyond
14 the grant period.

15 “(iv) The Federal share of the cost described in
16 clause (ii) shall be 30 percent, and the State shall provide
17 the non-Federal share.

18 “(v) Funds made available under this subparagraph
19 shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, other Fed-
20 eral, State, and local funds expended to carry out activities
21 related to early childhood education and care in the State.

22 “(vi) Not later than 18 months after the date a State
23 receives a grant under this subparagraph, the State shall
24 submit an interim report to the Secretary. A State that
25 receives a grant under this subparagraph shall submit a

1 final report to the Secretary at the end of the grant pe-
2 riod.”; and

3 (5) in paragraph (6)—

4 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “7.5
5 percent” and all that follows and inserting “not
6 less than 12 percent for fiscal year 2008, not
7 less than 14 percent for fiscal year 2009, not
8 less than 16 percent for fiscal year 2010, not
9 less than 18 percent for fiscal year 2011, and
10 not less than 20 percent for fiscal year 2012,
11 of the amount appropriated pursuant to section
12 639(a).”;

13 (B) by striking subparagraph (B);

14 (C) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking
15 “required to be” each place it appears; and

16 (D) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
17 subparagraph (B).

18 (b) SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS.—Section 640(f) of
19 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(f)) is amended—

20 (1) by striking “(f) The” and inserting “(f)(1)
21 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
22 of the Head Start for School Readiness Act, the”;

23 (2) by striking “needs.” and inserting “needs,
24 including models that leverage the capacity and ca-

1 pabilities of the delivery system of early childhood
2 education and child care.”; and

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

4 “(2) In establishing the procedures the Secretary
5 shall establish procedures to provide for—

6 “(A) the conversion of part-day programs to
7 full-day programs or part-day slots to full-day slots;
8 and

9 “(B) serving additional infants and toddlers
10 pursuant to section 645(a)(5).”.

11 (c) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—Section 640(g)(2) of the
12 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(g)(2)) is amended—

13 (1) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting
14 the following:

15 “(C) the extent to which the applicant has un-
16 dertaken communitywide strategic planning and
17 needs assessments involving other community orga-
18 nizations and Federal, State, and local public agen-
19 cies serving children and families (including organi-
20 zations and agencies providing family support serv-
21 ices and protective services to children and families
22 and organizations serving families in whose homes
23 English is not the language customarily spoken),
24 and individuals, organizations, and public entities
25 serving children with disabilities, children in foster

1 care, and homeless children including the local edu-
2 cational agency liaison designated under section
3 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless
4 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii));”;

5 (2) in subparagraph (D)—

6 (A) by striking “community” and inserting
7 “communitywide”; and

8 (B) by striking “other local” and inserting
9 “the State and local”;

10 (3) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “would
11 like to participate but” after “community who”;

12 (4) in subparagraph (G), by inserting “leverage
13 the existing delivery systems of such services and”
14 after “manner that will”; and

15 (5) in subparagraph (H), by inserting “, includ-
16 ing the local educational agency liaison designated
17 under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-
18 Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
19 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)),” after “community involved”.

20 (d) VEHICLE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.—Section
21 640(i) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(i)) is
22 amended by adding at the end the following: “The regula-
23 tions shall also establish requirements to ensure the appro-
24 priate supervision of, and appropriate background checks

1 for, individuals with whom the agencies contract to trans-
2 port those children.”.

3 (e) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL HEAD START PRO-
4 GRAMS.—Section 640(l) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
5 9835(l)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and insert-
6 ing the following:

7 “(3) In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary
8 shall continue the administrative arrangement at the na-
9 tional level for meeting the needs of Indian children and
10 children of migrant and seasonal farmworkers and shall
11 ensure—

12 “(A) that appropriate funding is provided to
13 meet such needs, including training and technical as-
14 sistance provided by staff with knowledge of and ex-
15 perience in working with such populations; and

16 “(B) the appointment of a national Indian
17 Head Start collaboration director and a national mi-
18 grant and seasonal Head Start program collabora-
19 tion director.

20 “(4)(A) For the purposes of paragraph (3), the Sec-
21 retary shall conduct an annual consultation in each af-
22 fected Head Start region, with tribal governments oper-
23 ating Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

24 “(B) The consultations shall be for the purpose of
25 better meeting the needs of American Indian and Alaska

1 Native children and families pertinent to subsection
2 (a)(2)(A), taking into consideration funding allocations,
3 distribution formulas, and other issues affecting the deliv-
4 ery of Head Start services within tribal communities.

5 “(C) The Secretary shall publish a notification of the
6 consultations in the Federal Register prior to conducting
7 the consultations.

8 “(D) A detailed report of each consultation shall be
9 prepared and made available, on a timely basis, to all trib-
10 al governments receiving funds under this subchapter.

11 “(5)(A) In order to increase access to Head Start
12 services for children of migrant and seasonal farmworkers,
13 the Secretary shall work in collaboration with providers
14 of migrant and seasonal Head Start programs, the Sec-
15 retary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Labor, and the Sec-
16 retary of Education to—

17 “(i) collect, report, and share data on farm-
18 workers and their families in order to adequately ac-
19 count for the number of children of migrant and
20 seasonal farmworkers who are eligible for Head
21 Start services and determine how many of such chil-
22 dren receive the services; and

23 “(ii) identify barriers that prevent children of
24 migrant and seasonal farmworkers who are eligible
25 for Head Start services from accessing Head Start

1 services, and develop a plan for eliminating such
2 barriers, including certain requirements relating to
3 tracking, health records, and educational documents.

4 “(B) Not later than 1 year after the date of enact-
5 ment of the Head Start for School Readiness Act, the Sec-
6 retary shall publish in the Federal Register a notice about
7 how the Secretary plans to carry out the activities identi-
8 fied in subparagraph (A) and shall provide a period for
9 public comment. To the extent practicable, the Secretary
10 shall consider comments received before implementing any
11 of the activities identified in subparagraph (A).

12 “(C) Not later than 18 months after the date of en-
13 actment of the Head Start for School Readiness Act, the
14 Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Edu-
15 cation and Labor of the House of Representatives and the
16 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of
17 the Senate detailing how the Secretary plans to carry out
18 the activities identified in subparagraph (A).

19 “(D) The Secretary shall take appropriate caution to
20 ensure the protection of the confidentiality of any person-
21 ally identifiable data, information, and records collected
22 or maintained regarding children and families served by
23 migrant and seasonal Head Start programs.

24 “(E) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed
25 to authorize the development of a nationwide database of

1 personally identifiable data, information, or records on in-
2 dividuals involved in studies or other collections of data
3 under this paragraph.”.

4 (f) HOMELESS CHILDREN.—Section 640 of the Head
5 Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835) is amended by adding at the
6 end the following:

7 “(m) ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS CHILDREN.—The
8 Secretary shall issue regulations to remove barriers to the
9 enrollment and participation of homeless children in Head
10 Start programs. Such regulations shall require Head Start
11 agencies to—

12 “(1) implement policies and procedures to en-
13 sure that homeless children are identified and re-
14 ceive appropriate priority for enrollment;

15 “(2) allow homeless children to apply to, enroll
16 in, and attend Head Start programs while required
17 documents, such as proof of residency, proof of im-
18 munization, and other medical records, birth certifi-
19 cates, and other documents, are obtained within a
20 reasonable timeframe; and

21 “(3) coordinate individual Head Start programs
22 with efforts to implement subtitle B of title VII of
23 the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
24 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).

1 “(n) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sub-
2 chapter shall be construed to require a State to establish
3 a program of early education for children in the State,
4 to require any child to participate in a program of early
5 education in order to attend preschool, or to participate
6 in any initial screening prior to participation in such pro-
7 gram, except as provided under section 612(a)(3) of the
8 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
9 1412(a)(3)) and consistent with section 635(a)(5) of such
10 Act (20 U.S.C. 1435(a)(5)).

11 “(o) **CURRICULA.**—All curricula funded under this
12 subchapter shall be scientifically based, developmentally
13 and linguistically based (to the extent practicable), and
14 age appropriate. The curricula shall reflect all areas of
15 child development and learning. Parents shall have the op-
16 portunity to examine any such curricula or instructional
17 materials funded under this subchapter.”.

18 **SEC. 7. DESIGNATION OF HEAD START AGENCIES.**

19 Section 641 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836)
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 **“SEC. 641. DESIGNATION OF HEAD START AGENCIES.**

22 “(a) **DESIGNATION.**—

23 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary is authorized
24 to designate as a Head Start agency any local public
25 or private nonprofit or for-profit agency, within a

1 community, including a community-based organiza-
2 tion that—

3 “(A) has power and authority to carry out
4 the purpose of this subchapter and perform the
5 functions set forth in section 642 within a com-
6 munity; and

7 “(B) is determined to have the capacity to
8 plan, conduct, administer, and evaluate, either
9 directly or by other arrangements, a Head Start
10 program.

11 “(2) REQUIRED GOALS FOR DESIGNATION.—In
12 order to be designated as a Head Start agency, an
13 entity described in paragraph (1) shall—

14 “(A) establish program goals for improving
15 the school readiness of children participating in
16 a program under this subchapter, including
17 goals for meeting the performance standards
18 and additional educational standards described
19 in section 641A and shall establish results-
20 based school readiness goals that are aligned
21 with the Head Start Child Outcomes Frame-
22 work, State early learning standards (as appro-
23 priate), and requirements and expectations for
24 local public schools; and

25 “(B) have a governing body—

1 “(i) with legal and fiscal responsibility
2 for administering and overseeing programs
3 under this subchapter;

4 “(ii) that fully participates in the de-
5 velopment, planning, and evaluation of the
6 programs to ensure the operation of pro-
7 grams of high quality;

8 “(iii) that is responsible for ensuring
9 compliance with Federal laws and regula-
10 tions, including the performance standards
11 described in section 641A, as well as appli-
12 cable State, tribal, and local laws and reg-
13 ulations, including laws defining the nature
14 and operations of the governing body; and

15 “(iv) that has procedures to facilitate
16 meaningful consultation and collaboration
17 about decisions of the governing body and
18 the policy council established under para-
19 graph (3).

20 “(3) ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICY COUNCIL
21 UPON DESIGNATION.—Upon receiving designation as
22 a Head Start agency, the agency shall establish a
23 policy council that—

24 “(A) in accordance with paragraph (5)(C),
25 shall make decisions that influence the char-

1 scribed in clause (i) to work directly with
2 the governing body.

3 “(iii) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—
4 Members of the governing body shall—

5 “(I) not have a conflict of inter-
6 est with the Head Start agency or del-
7 egate agencies; and

8 “(II) not receive compensation
9 for the purposes of serving on the
10 governing body or for providing serv-
11 ices to the Head Start agency.

12 “(C) RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNING
13 BODY.—

14 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The governing
15 body shall be responsible for—

16 “(I) the selection of delegate
17 agencies and such agencies’ service
18 areas;

19 “(II) establishing procedures and
20 criteria for recruitment, selection, and
21 enrollment;

22 “(III) all funding applications
23 and amendments to funding applica-
24 tions for programs under this sub-
25 chapter;

1 “(IV) establishing procedures
2 and guidelines to access and collect
3 the information described in para-
4 graph (6);

5 “(V) review and approval of—

6 “(aa) the annual self-assess-
7 ment, financial audit, and find-
8 ings from the Federal monitoring
9 review, of the Head Start agency
10 or delegate agency; and

11 “(bb) such agency’s progress
12 in carrying out the programmatic
13 and fiscal intent of such agency’s
14 grant application;

15 “(VI) developing procedures for
16 how members of the policy council of
17 the Head Start agency are selected,
18 consistent with subparagraph (E)(ii);

19 “(VII) financial audits, account-
20 ing, and reporting;

21 “(VIII) personnel policies and
22 procedures regarding hiring, termi-
23 nation, salary scales (and changes
24 made to the scale), and salaries of the
25 Executive Director, Head Start Direc-

1 tor, the Director of Human Re-
2 sources, the Chief Fiscal Officer, and
3 any equivalent position; and

4 “(IX) review and approval of the
5 community assessment, including any
6 updates to such assessment.

7 “(ii) CONDUCT OF RESPONSIBIL-
8 ITIES.—The governing body shall ensure
9 the development and approval of an inter-
10 nal control structure to facilitate those re-
11 sponsibilities in order to—

12 “(I) safeguard Federal funds;

13 “(II) comply with laws and regu-
14 lations that have an impact on finan-
15 cial statements;

16 “(III) detect or prevent non-
17 compliance with this subchapter; and

18 “(IV) receive financial audit re-
19 ports and direct and monitor staff im-
20 plementation of corrective actions.

21 “(iii) COMMITTEES.—The governing
22 body shall, to the extent practicable and
23 appropriate, establish—

24 “(I) advisory committees to over-
25 see responsibilities related to financial

1 auditing and finances of the Head
2 Start agency, as well as compliance
3 with Federal, State, and local laws
4 and regulations; and

5 “(II) at the discretion of the gov-
6 erning body, additional advisory com-
7 mittees to study and make rec-
8 ommendations on areas related to the
9 improvement of the Head Start pro-
10 gram.

11 “(D) ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICY COUN-
12 CIL.—Each Head Start agency shall establish a
13 policy council in accordance with paragraph (3).

14 “(E) COMPOSITION OF POLICY COUNCIL.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The policy council
16 shall consist of—

17 “(I) parents of children currently
18 enrolled in the Head Start agency or
19 delegate agency’s programs, which
20 shall constitute a majority of the
21 membership of the policy council; and

22 “(II) members at large of the
23 community served by the Head Start
24 agency, which may include parents of
25 children previously enrolled in the

1 Head Start agency or delegate agen-
2 cy's programs.

3 “(ii) SELECTION.—Parents serving on
4 the policy council shall be elected by par-
5 ents of children currently enrolled in the
6 Head Start agency or delegate agency's
7 programs and shall represent, proportion-
8 ately, all program options and settings op-
9 erated by the Head Start agency or dele-
10 gate agency.

11 “(iii) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—
12 Members of the policy council shall—

13 “(I) not have a conflict of inter-
14 est with the Head Start agency or del-
15 egate agencies; and

16 “(II) not receive compensation
17 for serving on the policy council or for
18 providing services to the Head Start
19 agency.

20 “(F) RESPONSIBILITIES OF POLICY COUN-
21 CIL.—The policy council shall be responsible
22 for—

23 “(i) program planning, including—

24 “(I) program design, including
25 long and short term program goals,

1 all funding applications and amend-
2 ments to funding applications, and ob-
3 jectives based on the annual com-
4 munitywide assessment and self-as-
5 sessment;

6 “(II) program recruitment, selec-
7 tion, and enrollment priorities; and

8 “(III) budget planning for pro-
9 gram expenditures consistent with
10 subparagraph (C)(i)(VII), including
11 polices for reimbursement and partici-
12 pation in policy council activities;

13 “(ii) program operation consistent
14 with subparagraph (C)(i)(VIII), including
15 implementation of standards of conduct for
16 program staff, contractors, and volunteers
17 and criteria for the employment and dis-
18 missal of program staff; and

19 “(iii) activities to support the active
20 involvement of parents in supporting pro-
21 gram operations, including policies to en-
22 sure that the Head Start program is re-
23 sponsive to community and parent needs.

24 “(6) INFORMATION SHARING.—The governing
25 body and the policy council shall share with each

1 other regular and accurate information for use by
2 both entities about program planning, policies, and
3 Head Start agency operations, including—

4 “(A) monthly financial statements (includ-
5 ing detailed credit card account expenditures
6 for any employee with a Head Start agency
7 credit card or who seeks reimbursement for
8 charged expenses);

9 “(B) monthly program information sum-
10 maries;

11 “(C) program enrollment reports, including
12 attendance reports for children whose care is
13 partially subsidized by another public agency;

14 “(D) monthly reports of meals and snacks
15 provided through programs of the Department
16 of Agriculture;

17 “(E) the financial audit;

18 “(F) the annual self-assessment, including
19 any findings related to the annual self-assess-
20 ment;

21 “(G) the community assessment of the
22 Head Start agency’s service area and any appli-
23 cable updates;

24 “(H) communication and guidance from
25 the Secretary; and

1 “(I) the program information reports.

2 “(7) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

3 Appropriate training and technical assistance shall
4 be provided to the members of the governing body
5 and the policy council to ensure that the members
6 understand the information the members receive and
7 can effectively oversee and participate in the pro-
8 grams of the Head Start agency.

9 “(b) COMMUNITIES.—For purposes of this sub-
10 chapter, a community may be a city, county, or multicounty
11 or multicounty unit within a State, an Indian reservation
12 (including Indians in any off-reservation area designated
13 by an appropriate tribal government in consultation with
14 the Secretary), or a neighborhood or other area (irrespec-
15 tive of boundaries or political subdivisions) that provides
16 a suitable organizational base and possesses the com-
17 monality of interest needed to operate a Head Start pro-
18 gram.

19 “(c) REDESIGNATION.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In administering the provi-
21 sions of this section, the Secretary shall, in consulta-
22 tion with the Governor of the State involved, redesi-
23 gnate as a Head Start agency any Head Start agen-
24 cy or delegate agency that is high performing, as de-
25 termined by meeting each of the following criteria:

1 “(A) Is receiving assistance under this sub-
2 chapter.

3 “(B) Meets or exceeds program and finan-
4 cial management requirements or standards de-
5 scribed in section 641A(a)(1).

6 “(C) Has no unresolved deficiencies, in-
7 cluding having resolved any deficiencies found
8 during the last triennial review under section
9 641A(c).

10 “(D) Can demonstrate, through agree-
11 ments such as memoranda of understanding,
12 active collaboration with the State or local com-
13 munity in the provision of services for children
14 (such as the provision of extended day services,
15 education, professional development and train-
16 ing for staff, and other types of cooperative en-
17 deavors).

18 “(E) Completes and submits the appro-
19 priate reapplication forms as required by the
20 Secretary.

21 “(2) LIMITATION.—A Head Start agency with
22 a triennial review under section 641A(c) scheduled
23 not later than 18 months after the date of enact-
24 ment of the Head Start for School Readiness Act
25 shall not be subject to the criteria described in para-

1 graph (1) for that review in order to be redesign-
2 nated. The Head Start agency shall be subject to the
3 criteria for any subsequent triennial review.

4 “(d) DESIGNATION WHEN NO ENTITY IS REDESIG-
5 NATED.—If no entity in a community is redesignated ac-
6 cording to subsection (c), the Secretary shall, after con-
7 ducting an open competition, designate a Head Start
8 agency from among qualified applicants in such commu-
9 nity.

10 “(e) PROHIBITION AGAINST NON-INDIAN HEAD
11 START AGENCY RECEIVING A GRANT FOR AN INDIAN
12 HEAD START PROGRAM.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
14 provision of law except as provided in paragraph (2),
15 under no condition may a non-Indian Head Start
16 agency receive a grant to carry out an Indian Head
17 Start program.

18 “(2) EXCEPTION.—In a community in which
19 there is no Indian Head Start agency available for
20 designation to carry out an Indian Head Start pro-
21 gram, a non-Indian Head Start agency may receive
22 a grant to carry out an Indian Head Start program
23 but only until such time as an Indian Head Start
24 agency in such community becomes available and is
25 designated pursuant to this section.

1 “(f) EFFECTIVENESS.—In selecting from among
2 qualified applicants for designation as a Head Start agen-
3 cy, the Secretary shall consider the effectiveness of each
4 such applicant to provide Head Start services, based on—

5 “(1) any past performance of such applicant in
6 providing services comparable to Head Start serv-
7 ices, including how effectively such applicant pro-
8 vided such comparable services;

9 “(2) the plan of such applicant to provide com-
10 prehensive health, educational, nutritional, social,
11 and other services needed to aid participating chil-
12 dren in attaining their full potential, and to prepare
13 children to succeed in school;

14 “(3) the capacity of such applicant to serve eli-
15 gible children with programs that use scientifically
16 based research that promote school readiness of chil-
17 dren participating in the program;

18 “(4) the plan of such applicant to meet stand-
19 ards set forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular
20 attention to the standards set forth in subpara-
21 graphs (A) and (B) of such section;

22 “(5) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
23 the Head Start program the applicant proposes to
24 carry out with other preschool programs, includ-
25 ing—

1 “(A) the Early Reading First and Even
2 Start programs under subparts 2 and 3 of part
3 B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6371 et seq.,
5 6381 et seq.);

6 “(B) other preschool program under title I
7 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.);

8 “(C) programs under section 619 and part
9 C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education
10 Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.);

11 “(D) State prekindergarten programs;

12 “(E) child care programs;

13 “(F) the educational programs that the
14 children in the Head Start program involved
15 will enter at the age of compulsory school at-
16 tendance; and

17 “(G) reading readiness programs such as
18 those conducted by public and school libraries;

19 “(6) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
20 the Head Start program that the applicant proposes
21 to carry out with public and private entities who are
22 willing to commit resources to assist the Head Start
23 program in meeting its program needs;

1 “(7) the plan of such applicant to collaborate
2 with a local library, where available, that is inter-
3 ested in that collaboration, to—

4 “(A) develop innovative programs to excite
5 children about the world of books, such as pro-
6 grams that involve—

7 “(i) taking children to the library for
8 a story hour;

9 “(ii) promoting the use of library
10 cards;

11 “(iii) developing a lending library or
12 using a mobile library van; and

13 “(iv) providing fresh books in the
14 Head Start classroom on a regular basis;

15 “(B) assist in literacy training for Head
16 Start teachers; and

17 “(C) support parents and other caregivers
18 in literacy efforts;

19 “(8) the plan of such applicant—

20 “(A) to seek the involvement of parents of
21 participating children in activities (at home and
22 in the center involved where practicable) de-
23 signed to help such parents become full part-
24 ners in the education of their children;

1 “(ii) assistance in developing literacy
2 and communication skills;

3 “(iii) opportunities to share experi-
4 ences with other parents (including parent
5 mentor relationships);

6 “(iv) regular in-home visitation; or

7 “(v) any other activity designed to
8 help such parents become full partners in
9 the education of their children;

10 “(F) to provide, with respect to each par-
11 ticipating family, a family needs assessment
12 that includes consultation with such parents
13 about the benefits of parent involvement and
14 about the activities described in subparagraphs
15 (C), (D), and (E) in which such parents may
16 choose to become involved (taking into consider-
17 ation their specific family needs, work sched-
18 ules, and other responsibilities); and

19 “(G) to extend outreach to fathers, in ap-
20 propriate cases, in order to strengthen the role
21 of fathers in families, in the education of their
22 young children, and in the Head Start program,
23 by working directly with fathers and father fig-
24 ures through activities such as—

1 “(i) in appropriate cases, including fa-
2 thers in home visits and providing opportu-
3 nities for direct father-child interactions;
4 and

5 “(ii) targeting increased male partici-
6 pation in the conduct of the program;

7 “(9) the ability of such applicant to carry out
8 the plans described in paragraphs (2), (4), and (5);

9 “(10) other factors related to the requirements
10 of this subchapter;

11 “(11) the plan of such applicant to meet the
12 needs of limited English proficient children and their
13 families, including procedures to identify such chil-
14 dren, plans to provide trained personnel, and plans
15 to provide services to assist the children in making
16 progress toward the acquisition of the English lan-
17 guage;

18 “(12) the plan of such applicant to meet the
19 needs of children with disabilities;

20 “(13) the plan of such applicant who chooses to
21 assist younger siblings of children who will partici-
22 pate in the Head Start program, to obtain health
23 services from other sources;

1 “(14) the plan of such applicant to collaborate
2 with other entities carrying out early childhood edu-
3 cation and child care programs in the community;

4 “(15) the plan of such applicant to meet the
5 needs of homeless children and children in foster
6 care, including the transportation needs of such chil-
7 dren; and

8 “(16) the plan of such applicant to recruit and
9 retain qualified staff.

10 “(g) INTERIM BASIS.—If there is not a qualified ap-
11 plicant in a community for designation as a Head Start
12 agency, the Secretary shall designate a qualified agency
13 to carry out the Head Start program in the community
14 on an interim basis until a qualified applicant from the
15 community is so designated.

16 “(h) INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS AND AREA RESI-
17 DENTS.—The Secretary shall continue the practice of in-
18 volving parents and area residents who are affected by
19 programs under this subchapter in the selection of quali-
20 fied applicants for designation as Head Start agencies.

21 “(i) PRIORITY.—In selecting from among qualified
22 applicants for designation as a Head Start agency, the
23 Secretary shall give priority to applicants that have dem-
24 onstrated capacity in providing effective, comprehensive,

1 and well-coordinated early childhood services to children
2 and their families.”.

3 **SEC. 8. QUALITY STANDARDS; MONITORING OF HEAD**
4 **START AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS.**

5 Section 641A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
6 9836a) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)—

8 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking
9 “642(d)” and inserting “642(c)”;

10 (B) in paragraph (1)(B)—

11 (i) in clause (i), by striking “edu-
12 cation performance standards” and insert-
13 ing “educational performance standards”;
14 and

15 (ii) by striking clause (ii) and insert-
16 ing the following:

17 “(ii) additional educational standards
18 based on the recommendations of the National
19 Academy of Sciences panel described in section
20 649(h) and other experts in the field, to ensure
21 that the curriculum involved addresses, and
22 that the children participating in the program
23 show appropriate progress toward developing
24 and applying, the recommended educational
25 outcomes, after the panel considers the appro-

1 prieteness of additional educational standards
2 relating to—

3 “(I) language skills related to listen-
4 ing, understanding, speaking, and commu-
5 nicating;

6 “(II) pre-literacy knowledge and
7 skills;

8 “(III) premathematics knowledge and
9 skills;

10 “(IV) scientific abilities;

11 “(V) general cognitive abilities related
12 to academic achievement and child develop-
13 ment;

14 “(VI) social and emotional develop-
15 ment related to early learning and school
16 success;

17 “(VII) physical development; and

18 “(VIII) in the case of limited English
19 proficient children, progress toward acqui-
20 sition of the English language (which may
21 include progress made with linguistically
22 appropriate instructional services) while
23 making meaningful progress in attaining
24 the knowledge, skills, abilities, and develop-

1 ment described in subclauses (I) through
2 (VII);”;

3 (C) in paragraph (1)(D), by striking
4 “projects; and” and inserting “projects, includ-
5 ing regulations that require that the facilities
6 used by Head Start agencies (including Early
7 Head Start agencies) and delegate agencies for
8 regularly scheduled center-based and combina-
9 tion program option classroom activities—

10 “(i) shall be in compliance with State
11 and local requirements concerning licensing
12 for such facilities; and

13 “(ii) shall be accessible by State and
14 local authorities for purposes of monitoring
15 and ensuring compliance; and”;

16 (D) in paragraph (2)—

17 (i) in subparagraph (B)—

18 (I) in clause (i), by striking “the
19 date of enactment of this section” and
20 inserting “the date of enactment of
21 the Head Start for School Readiness
22 Act”;

23 (II) in clause (ii), by striking
24 “the date of enactment of this Act”
25 and inserting “the date of enactment

1 of the Head Start for School Readiness Act”;

2
3 (III) in clause (iii), by inserting
4 “homeless children, children in foster
5 care,” after “children with disabilities,”;
6

7 (IV) in clause (vi), by striking
8 “including the language” and all that
9 follows and inserting “including
10 changes in the language background
11 and family structure of such children,
12 and changes in the population and
13 number of such children who are in
14 foster care or are homeless children;”;

15 (V) by striking clause (vii) and
16 inserting the following:

17 “(vii) the unique challenges faced by
18 individual programs, including those pro-
19 grams that are seasonal or short term and
20 those programs that serve rural popu-
21 lations;”;

22 (ii) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by strik-
23 ing “the date of enactment of the Coats
24 Human Services Reauthorization Act of
25 1998.” and inserting “the date of enact-

1 ment of the Head Start for School Readiness Act; and”;
2 ness Act; and”;

3 (iii) by adding at the end the following:
4 lowing:

5 “(D) consult with Indian tribes, American
6 Indian and Alaska Native experts in early childhood development,
7 linguists, and the National Indian Head Start Directors Association on the
8 review and promulgation of program standards and measures (including standards and measures
9 for language acquisition and school readiness).”;
10 and measures (including standards and measures for language acquisition and school readiness).”;
11 ness).”;

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

13 “(4) EVALUATIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
14 FOR DELEGATE AGENCIES.—

15 “(A) PROCEDURES.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
17 (ii), the Head Start agency shall establish procedures relating to its delegate agencies,
18 including—
19 procedures, including—
20 cies, including—

21 “(I) procedures for evaluating
22 delegate agencies;

23 “(II) procedures for defunding
24 delegate agencies; and

1 “(III) procedures for appealing a
2 defunding decision relating to a dele-
3 gate agency.

4 “(ii) TERMINATION.—The Head Start
5 agency may not terminate a delegate agen-
6 cy’s contract or reduce a delegate agency’s
7 service area without showing cause or dem-
8 onstrating the cost-effectiveness of such a
9 decision.

10 “(B) EVALUATIONS.—Each Head Start
11 agency—

12 “(i) shall evaluate its delegate agen-
13 cies using the procedures established pur-
14 suant to this section, including subpara-
15 graph (A); and

16 “(ii) shall inform the delegate agen-
17 cies of the deficiencies identified through
18 the evaluation that shall be corrected.

19 “(C) REMEDIES TO ENSURE CORRECTIVE
20 ACTIONS.—In the event that the Head Start
21 agency identifies a deficiency for a delegate
22 agency through the evaluation, the Head Start
23 agency shall take action, which may include—

1 “(i) initiating procedures to terminate
2 the designation of the agency unless the
3 agency corrects the deficiency;

4 “(ii) conducting monthly monitoring
5 visits to such delegate agency until all defi-
6 ciencies are corrected or the Head Start
7 agency decides to defund such delegate
8 agency; and

9 “(iii) releasing funds to such delegate
10 agency—

11 “(I) only as reimbursements,
12 until all deficiencies are corrected or
13 the Head Start agency decides to
14 defund such delegate agency; and

15 “(II) only if there is continuity of
16 services for children and families.

17 “(D) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
18 in this paragraph shall be construed to impact
19 or obviate the responsibilities of the Secretary
20 with respect to Head Start agencies or delegate
21 agencies receiving funding under this sub-
22 chapter.”;

23 (2) in subsection (b)—

24 (A) in paragraph (2)—

1 (i) by striking the paragraph heading
2 and inserting the following:

3 “(2) CHARACTERISTICS AND USE OF MEAS-
4 URES.—”;

5 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
6 “, not later than July 1, 1999; and” and
7 inserting a semicolon;

8 (iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
9 the period and inserting a semicolon;

10 (iv) by striking the flush matter fol-
11 lowing subparagraph (C); and

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

13 “(D) measure characteristics that are
14 strongly predictive (as determined on a sci-
15 entific basis) of a child’s school readiness and
16 later performance in school;

17 “(E) be appropriate for the population
18 served; and

19 “(F) be reviewed not less than every 4
20 years, based on advances in the science of early
21 childhood development.

22 The performance measures shall be issued by regula-
23 tion and shall include the performance standards
24 and additional educational standards described in

1 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (a)(1).”;

2 and

3 (B) in paragraph (3)—

4 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;
5 and” and inserting a semicolon;

6 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
7 the period and inserting “; and”; and

8 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(C) to enable Head Start agencies to indi-
11 vidualize programs of instruction to better meet
12 the needs of the child involved.”;

13 (3) in subsection (c)—

14 (A) in paragraph (1)—

15 (i) by striking subparagraph (C) and
16 inserting the following:

17 “(C) Unannounced site inspections of
18 Head Start programs for health and safety rea-
19 sons, as appropriate.”;

20 (ii) by redesignating subparagraph
21 (D) as subparagraph (E); and

22 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph
23 (C) the following:

24 “(D) Notwithstanding subparagraph (C),
25 followup reviews, including—

1 “(i) prompt return visits as necessary
2 to agencies and programs that fail to meet
3 1 or more of the performance measures de-
4 veloped by the Secretary under subsection
5 (b);

6 “(ii) a review of programs with cita-
7 tions that include findings of deficiencies
8 not later than 6 months after the date of
9 such citation; and

10 “(iii) followup reviews that incor-
11 porate a monitoring visit without prior no-
12 tice of the visit to the agency involved or
13 with such limited prior notice as is nec-
14 essary to ensure the participation of par-
15 ents and key staff members.”; and

16 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
17 ing the following:

18 “(2) CONDUCT OF REVIEWS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
20 ensure that reviews described in paragraph
21 (1)—

22 “(i) are performed, to the maximum
23 extent practicable, by employees of the De-
24 partment of Health and Human Services

1 who are knowledgeable about Head Start
2 programs;

3 “(ii) are conducted by review teams
4 that shall include individuals who are
5 knowledgeable about Head Start and other
6 early childhood education programs and, to
7 the maximum extent practicable, the di-
8 verse (including linguistic and cultural)
9 needs of eligible children (including chil-
10 dren with disabilities, homeless children,
11 and children in foster care) and limited
12 English proficient children and their fami-
13 lies, and personnel management, financial
14 accountability, and systems development
15 and monitoring;

16 “(iii) include as part of the reviews of
17 the programs, a review and assessment of
18 program effectiveness, including strengths
19 and weaknesses, as measured in accord-
20 ance with the results-based performance
21 measures developed by the Secretary pur-
22 suant to subsection (b) and with the stand-
23 ards established pursuant to subpara-
24 graphs (A) and (B) of subsection (a)(1);

1 “(iv) seek information from the com-
2 munities and States where Head Start pro-
3 grams exist about innovative or effective
4 collaborative efforts, barriers to collabora-
5 tion, and the efforts of the Head Start
6 agencies to collaborate with the entities
7 carrying out early childhood education and
8 child care programs in the community;

9 “(v) include as part of the reviews of
10 the programs, a review and assessment of
11 whether the programs are in conformity
12 with the income eligibility requirements
13 under section 645 and regulations promul-
14 gated under such section;

15 “(vi) include as part of the reviews of
16 the programs, a review and assessment of
17 whether programs have adequately ad-
18 dressed population and community needs
19 (including needs of populations of limited
20 English proficient children and children of
21 migrant and seasonal farmworking fami-
22 lies);

23 “(vii) include as part of the reviews of
24 the programs, a review and assessment of
25 whether programs have adequately ad-

1 dressed the needs of children with disabil-
2 ities;

3 “(viii) include as part of the reviews
4 of the programs, data from the results of
5 periodic child assessments, and a review
6 and assessment of child outcomes and per-
7 formance as they relate to agency-deter-
8 mined school readiness goals described in
9 section 641(a)(2)(A); and

10 “(ix) in the case of Early Head Start
11 programs, are conducted by a review team
12 that includes individuals who are knowl-
13 edgeable about the development of infants
14 and toddlers.

15 “(B) TRAINING; QUALITY AND CONSIST-
16 ENCY.—The Secretary, from funds available
17 under section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii), shall provide
18 periodic training for supervisors and members
19 of review teams in such topics as program man-
20 agement and financial audit performance. The
21 Secretary shall ensure the quality and consist-
22 ency across and within regions of reviews and
23 non-compliance and deficiency determinations
24 by conducting periodic interrater reliability
25 checks.”;

1 (4) in subsection (d)(1)—

2 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
3 (A), by inserting “or fails to address the com-
4 munitywide strategic plan and needs assessment
5 identified in section 640(g)(2)(C),” after “sub-
6 section (b),”; and

7 (B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
8 “and identify the technical assistance to be pro-
9 vided consistent with paragraph (3)” after “cor-
10 rected”;

11 (5) in subsection (e), by striking the last sen-
12 tence and inserting “The information contained in
13 such report shall be made available to all parents
14 with children receiving assistance under this sub-
15 chapter in an understandable and uniform format,
16 and to the extent practicable, in a language that the
17 parents can understand. Such information shall be
18 made widely available through public means such as
19 distribution through public agencies, and, at a min-
20 imum, by posting such information on the Internet
21 immediately upon publication.”; and

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

23 “(f) SELF-ASSESSMENTS.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
25 once each program year, with the consultation and

1 participation of policy councils, and, as applicable,
2 policy committees, and, as appropriate, other com-
3 munity members, each agency receiving funds under
4 this subchapter shall conduct a comprehensive self-
5 assessment of the effectiveness and progress in
6 meeting program goals and objectives and in imple-
7 menting and complying with Head Start program
8 performance standards.

9 “(2) REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLANS.—

10 “(A) REPORT.—An agency conducting a
11 self-assessment shall report the findings of the
12 self-assessment to the relevant policy council,
13 policy committee, governing body, and regional
14 office of the Administration for Children and
15 Families of the Department of Health and
16 Human Services. Each self-assessment shall
17 identify areas of strength and weakness.

18 “(B) IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—The agency
19 shall develop an improvement plan approved by
20 the governing body of the agency to strengthen
21 any areas identified in the self-assessment as
22 weaknesses or in need of improvement. The
23 agency shall report the areas to the appropriate
24 regional office of the Administration for Chil-
25 dren and Families.

1 “(3) ONGOING MONITORING.—Each Head Start
2 agency, Early Head Start agency, and delegate
3 agency shall establish and implement procedures for
4 the ongoing monitoring of their Head Start and
5 Early Head Start programs, to ensure that the oper-
6 ations of the programs work toward meeting pro-
7 gram goals and objectives and Head Start perform-
8 ance standards.

9 “(4) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—
10 Funds may be made available, through section
11 648(d)(13), for training and technical assistance to
12 assist agencies in conducting self-assessments.

13 “(g) REDUCTION OF GRANTS AND REDISTRIBUTION
14 OF FUNDS IN CASES OF UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—

15 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

16 “(A) ACTUAL ENROLLMENT.—The term
17 ‘actual enrollment’ means, with respect to the
18 program of a Head Start agency, the actual
19 number of children enrolled in such program
20 and reported by the agency (as required in
21 paragraph (2)) in a given month.

22 “(B) BASE GRANT.—The term ‘base grant’
23 means, with respect to a Head Start agency for
24 a fiscal year, that portion of the grant de-
25 rived—

1 “(i) from amounts reserved for use in
2 accordance with section 640(a)(2)(A), for a
3 Head Start agency administering an In-
4 dian Head Start program or migrant and
5 seasonal Head Start program;

6 “(ii) from amounts reserved for pay-
7 ments under section 640(a)(2)(B); or

8 “(iii) from amounts available under
9 section 640(a)(2)(D) or allotted among
10 States under section 640(a)(4).

11 “(C) FUNDED ENROLLMENT.—The term
12 ‘funded enrollment’ means, with respect to the
13 program of a Head Start agency in a fiscal
14 year, the number of children that the agency is
15 funded to serve through a grant for the pro-
16 gram during such fiscal year, as indicated in
17 the grant award.

18 “(2) ENROLLMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENT
19 FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.—Each entity carrying
20 out a Head Start program shall report on a monthly
21 basis to the Secretary and the relevant Head Start
22 agency—

23 “(A) the actual enrollment in such pro-
24 gram; and

1 “(B) if such actual enrollment is less than
2 the funded enrollment, any apparent reason for
3 such enrollment shortfall.

4 “(3) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND PLAN.—The
5 Secretary shall—

6 “(A) on a semiannual basis, determine
7 which Head Start agencies are operating with
8 an actual enrollment that is less than the fund-
9 ed enrollment based on not less than 4 consecu-
10 tive months of data;

11 “(B) for each such Head Start agency op-
12 erating a program with an actual enrollment
13 that is less than 95 percent of its funded enroll-
14 ment, as determined under subparagraph (A),
15 develop, in collaboration with such agency, a
16 plan and timetable for reducing or eliminating
17 under-enrollment taking into consideration—

18 “(i) the quality and extent of the out-
19 reach, recruitment, and communitywide
20 needs assessment conducted by such agen-
21 cy;

22 “(ii) changing demographics, mobility
23 of populations, and the identification of
24 new underserved low-income populations;

1 “(iii) facilities-related issues that may
2 impact enrollment;

3 “(iv) the ability to provide full-day
4 programs, where needed, through Head
5 Start funds or through collaboration with
6 entities carrying out other preschool or
7 child care programs, or programs with
8 other funding sources (where available);

9 “(v) the availability and use by fami-
10 lies of other preschool and child care op-
11 tions (including parental care) in the local
12 catchment area; and

13 “(vi) agency management procedures
14 that may impact enrollment; and

15 “(C) provide timely and ongoing technical
16 assistance to each agency described in subpara-
17 graph (B) for the purpose of implementing the
18 plan described in such subparagraph.

19 “(4) IMPLEMENTATION.—Upon receipt of the
20 technical assistance described in paragraph (3)(C), a
21 Head Start agency shall immediately implement the
22 plan described in paragraph (3)(B).

23 “(5) SECRETARIAL ACTION FOR CONTINUED
24 UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—If, 1 year after the date of
25 implementation of the plan described in paragraph

1 (3)(B), the Head Start agency continues to operate
2 a program at less than full enrollment, the Secretary
3 shall, where determined appropriate, continue to
4 provide technical assistance to such agency.

5 “(6) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENT
6 FOR CHRONIC UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If, after receiving
8 technical assistance and developing and imple-
9 menting a plan to the extent described in para-
10 graphs (3), (4), and (5) for 9 months, a Head
11 Start agency is still operating a program with
12 an actual enrollment that is less than 95 per-
13 cent of its funded enrollment, the Secretary
14 may—

15 “(i) designate such agency as chron-
16 ically under-enrolled; and

17 “(ii) recapture, withhold, or reduce
18 the base grant for the program by a per-
19 centage equal to the percentage difference
20 between funded enrollment and actual en-
21 rollment for the program for the most re-
22 cent year in which the agency is deter-
23 mined to be under-enrolled under para-
24 graph (3)(A).

1 “(B) WAIVER OR LIMITATION OF REDUC-
2 TIONS.—If the Secretary, after the implementa-
3 tion of the plan described in paragraph (3)(B),
4 finds that—

5 “(i) the causes of the enrollment
6 shortfall, or a portion of the shortfall, are
7 beyond the agency’s control (such as serv-
8 ing significant numbers of migrant or sea-
9 sonal farmworker children, homeless chil-
10 dren, children in foster care, or other high-
11 ly mobile children);

12 “(ii) the shortfall can reasonably be
13 expected to be temporary; or

14 “(iii) the number of slots allotted to
15 the agency is small enough that under-en-
16 rollment does not constitute a significant
17 shortfall, the Secretary may, as appro-
18 priate, waive or reduce the percentage re-
19 capturing, withholding, or reduction other-
20 wise required by subparagraph (A).

21 “(C) PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS; EF-
22 FECTIVE DATE.—The actions taken by the Sec-
23 retary under this paragraph with respect to a
24 Head Start agency shall take effect 1 day after
25 the date on which—

1 “(i) the time allowed for appeal under
2 section 646(a) expires without an appeal
3 by the agency; or

4 “(ii) the action is upheld in an admin-
5 istrative hearing under section 646.

6 “(7) REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
8 use amounts recovered from a Head Start agen-
9 cy through recapturing, withholding, or reduc-
10 tion under paragraph (6) in a fiscal year—

11 “(i) in the case of a Head Start agen-
12 cy administering an Indian Head Start
13 program or a migrant and seasonal Head
14 Start program, whose base grant is derived
15 from amounts specified in paragraph
16 (1)(B)(i), to redirect funds to 1 or more
17 agencies that—

18 “(I) are administering Head
19 Start programs serving the same spe-
20 cial population; and

21 “(II) demonstrate that the agen-
22 cies will use such redirected funds to
23 increase enrollment in their Head
24 Start programs in such fiscal year; or

1 “(ii) in the case of a Head Start agen-
2 cy in a State, whose base grant is derived
3 from amounts specified in clause (ii) or
4 (iii) of paragraph (1)(B), to redirect funds
5 to 1 or more agencies that—

6 “(I) are administering Head
7 Start programs in the same State;
8 and

9 “(II) make the demonstration de-
10 scribed in clause (i)(II).

11 “(B) SPECIAL RULE.—If there is no agen-
12 cy located in a State that meets the require-
13 ments of subclauses (I) and (II) of subpara-
14 graph (A)(ii), the Secretary shall use amounts
15 described in subparagraph (A) to redirect funds
16 to Head Start agencies located in other States
17 that make the demonstration described in sub-
18 paragraph (A)(i)(II).

19 “(C) ADJUSTMENT TO FUNDED ENROLL-
20 MENT.—The Secretary shall adjust as necessary
21 the requirements relating to funded enrollment
22 indicated in the grant agreement of a Head
23 Start agency receiving redistributed amounts
24 under this paragraph.

1 “(h) CONTRACT WITH NONPROFIT INTERMEDIARY
2 ORGANIZATION.—From funds reserved under clause (i) or
3 (ii) of section 640(a)(2)(C) or from whatever other re-
4 sources the Secretary determines appropriate, in carrying
5 out the provisions of this section, the Secretary or a Head
6 Start agency may contract with a nonprofit intermediary
7 organization that—

8 “(1) provides evaluations and technical assist-
9 ance to improve overall performance management;
10 and

11 “(2) has an exclusive focus of improving the
12 performance management and the use of technology
13 in assessing performance and meeting Head Start
14 regulations and can provide on-site, hands-on guid-
15 ance with the implementation of the recommenda-
16 tions.”.

17 **SEC. 9. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD.**

18 The Head Start Act is amended by inserting after
19 section 641A (42 U.S.C. 9836a) the following:

20 **“SEC. 641B. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILD-**
21 **HOOD.**

22 “(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘center
23 of excellence’ means a Center of Excellence in Early Child-
24 hood designated under subsection (b).

1 “(b) DESIGNATION AND BONUS GRANTS.—The Sec-
2 retary shall, subject to the availability of funds under this
3 subchapter, including under subsection (f), establish a
4 program under which the Secretary shall—

5 “(1) designate not more than 200 exemplary
6 Head Start agencies (including Early Head Start
7 agencies, Indian Head Start agencies, and migrant
8 and seasonal Head Start agencies) as Centers of Ex-
9 cellence in Early Childhood; and

10 “(2) make bonus grants to the centers of excel-
11 lence to carry out the activities described in sub-
12 section (d).

13 “(c) APPLICATION AND DESIGNATION.—

14 “(1) APPLICATION.—

15 “(A) NOMINATION AND SUBMISSION.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to
17 receive a designation as a center of excel-
18 lence under subsection (b), except as pro-
19 vided in clause (ii), a Head Start agency in
20 a State shall be nominated by the Gov-
21 ernor of the State and shall submit an ap-
22 plication to the Secretary at such time, in
23 such manner, and containing such infor-
24 mation as the Secretary may require.

1 “(ii) INDIAN AND MIGRANT AND SEA-
2 SONAL HEAD START PROGRAMS.—In the
3 case of an Indian Head Start agency or a
4 migrant or seasonal Head Start agency, to
5 be eligible to receive a designation as a
6 center of excellence under subsection (b),
7 such an agency shall be nominated by the
8 head of the appropriate regional office of
9 the Department of Health and Human
10 Services and shall submit an application to
11 the Secretary in accordance with clause (i).

12 “(B) CONTENTS.—At a minimum, the ap-
13 plication shall include—

14 “(i) evidence that the Head Start pro-
15 gram carried out by the agency has signifi-
16 cantly improved the school readiness of,
17 and enhanced academic outcomes for, chil-
18 dren who have participated in the program;

19 “(ii) evidence that the program meets
20 or exceeds standards and performance
21 measures described in subsections (a) and
22 (b) of section 641A, as evidenced by suc-
23 cessful completion of programmatic and
24 monitoring reviews, and has no findings of

1 deficiencies with respect to the standards
2 and measures;

3 “(iii) evidence that the program is
4 making progress toward meeting the re-
5 quirements described in section 648A;

6 “(iv) evidence demonstrating the ex-
7 istence of a collaborative partnership
8 among the Head Start agency, the State
9 (or a State agency), and other early care
10 and education providers in the local com-
11 munity involved;

12 “(v) a nomination letter from the
13 Governor, or appropriate regional office,
14 demonstrating the agency’s ability to carry
15 out the coordination, transition, and train-
16 ing services of the program to be carried
17 out under the bonus grant involved, includ-
18 ing coordination of activities with State
19 and local agencies that provide early child-
20 hood services to children and families in
21 the community served by the agency;

22 “(vi) information demonstrating the
23 existence of a local council for excellence in
24 early childhood, which shall include rep-
25 resentatives of all the institutions, agen-

1 cies, and groups involved in the work of
2 the center for, and the local provision of
3 services to, eligible children and other at-
4 risk children, and their families; and

5 “(vii) a description of how the Center,
6 in order to expand accessibility and con-
7 tinuity of quality early care and education,
8 will coordinate the early care and edu-
9 cation activities assisted under this section
10 with—

11 “(I) programs carried out under
12 the Child Care and Development
13 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
14 9858 et seq.);

15 “(II) other programs carried out
16 under this subchapter, including the
17 Early Head Start programs carried
18 out under section 645A;

19 “(III)(aa) Early Reading First
20 and Even Start programs carried out
21 under subparts 2 and 3 of part B of
22 title I of the Elementary and Sec-
23 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20
24 U.S.C. 6371 et seq., 6381 et seq.);

1 “(bb) other preschool programs
2 carried out under title I of that Act
3 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.); and

4 “(cc) the Ready-to-Learn Tele-
5 vision program carried out under sub-
6 part 3 of part D of title II of that Act
7 (20 U.S.C. 6775 et seq.);

8 “(IV) programs carried out
9 under section 619 and part C of the
10 Individuals with Disabilities Edu-
11 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et
12 seq.);

13 “(V) State prekindergarten pro-
14 grams; and

15 “(VI) other early care and edu-
16 cation programs.

17 “(2) SELECTION.—In selecting agencies to des-
18 ignate as centers of excellence under subsection (b),
19 the Secretary shall designate not less than 1 from
20 each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, an
21 Indian Head Start program, a migrant and seasonal
22 Head Start program, and the Commonwealth of
23 Puerto Rico.

24 “(3) PRIORITY.—In making bonus grant deter-
25 minations under this section, the Secretary shall give

1 priority to programs that, through their applications,
2 demonstrate that they are of exceptional quality and
3 would serve as exemplary models for programs in
4 the same geographic region. The Secretary may also
5 consider the populations served by the applicants,
6 such as programs that serve large proportions of
7 limited English proficient students or other under-
8 served populations, and may make bonus grants to
9 programs that do an exceptional job meeting the
10 needs of such children.

11 “(4) TERM OF DESIGNATION.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
13 graph (B), the Secretary shall designate a Head
14 Start agency as a center of excellence for a 5-
15 year term. During the period of that designa-
16 tion, subject to the availability of appropria-
17 tions, the agency shall be eligible to receive a
18 bonus grant under subsection (b).

19 “(B) REVOCATION.—The Secretary may
20 revoke an agency’s designation under subsection
21 (b) if the Secretary determines that the agency
22 is not demonstrating adequate performance or
23 has had findings of deficiencies described in
24 paragraph (1)(B)(ii).

1 “(5) AMOUNT OF BONUS GRANT.—The Sec-
2 retary shall base the amount of funding provided
3 through a bonus grant made under subsection (b) to
4 a center of excellence on the number of children eli-
5 gible for Head Start services in the community in-
6 volved. The Secretary shall, subject to the avail-
7 ability of funding, make such a bonus grant in an
8 amount of not less than \$200,000 per year.

9 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

10 “(1) ACTIVITIES.—A center of excellence that
11 receives a bonus grant under subsection (b)—

12 “(A) shall use the funds made available
13 through the bonus grant to model and dissemi-
14 nate, to other Head Start centers in the State
15 involved, best practices for achieving early aca-
16 demic success, including achieving school readi-
17 ness and developing pre-literacy and
18 premathematics skills for at-risk children and
19 achieving the acquisition of the English lan-
20 guage for limited English proficient children,
21 and to provide seamless service delivery for eli-
22 gible children and their families;

23 “(B) may use the funds made available
24 through the bonus grant—

1 “(i) to provide Head Start services to
2 additional eligible children;

3 “(ii) to better meet the needs of work-
4 ing families in the community served by
5 the center by serving more children in ex-
6 isting Early Head Start programs (existing
7 as of the date the center is designated
8 under this section) or in full-working-day,
9 full calendar year Head Start programs;

10 “(iii) to further coordinate early child-
11 hood and social services available in the
12 community served by the center for at-risk
13 children (birth through age 8), their fami-
14 lies, and pregnant women;

15 “(iv) to provide training and cross
16 training for Head Start teachers and staff,
17 child care providers, public and private
18 preschool and elementary school teachers,
19 and other providers of early childhood serv-
20 ices, and training and cross training to de-
21 velop agency leaders;

22 “(v) to provide effective transitions
23 between Head Start programs and elemen-
24 tary school, to facilitate ongoing commu-
25 nication between Head Start and elemen-

1 tary school teachers concerning children
2 receiving Head Start services, and to pro-
3 vide training and technical assistance to
4 providers who are public elementary school
5 teachers and other staff of local edu-
6 cational agencies, child care providers,
7 family service providers, and other pro-
8 viders of early childhood services, to help
9 the providers described in this clause in-
10 crease their ability to work with low-in-
11 come, at-risk children and their families;

12 “(vi) to develop or maintain partner-
13 ships with institutions of higher education
14 and nonprofit organizations, including
15 community-based organizations, that re-
16 cruit, train, place, and support college stu-
17 dents to serve as mentors and reading
18 partners to preschool children in Head
19 Start programs; and

20 “(vii) to carry out other activities de-
21 termined by the center to improve the
22 overall quality of the Head Start program
23 carried out by the agency and the program
24 carried out under the bonus grant involved.

1 “(2) INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER HEAD START
2 AGENCIES AND PROVIDERS.—A center that receives
3 a bonus grant under subsection (b), in carrying out
4 activities under this subsection, shall work with the
5 center’s delegate agencies and several additional
6 Head Start agencies (especially agencies that are
7 low-performing on the standards or performance
8 measures established under this subchapter), and
9 other providers of early childhood services in the
10 community involved, to encourage the agencies and
11 providers described in this sentence to carry out
12 model programs.

13 “(e) RESEARCH AND REPORTS.—

14 “(1) RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall, subject
15 to the availability of funds to carry out this sub-
16 section, award a grant or contract to an independent
17 organization to conduct research on the ability of the
18 centers of excellence to improve the school readiness
19 of children receiving Head Start services, and to
20 positively impact school results in the earliest
21 grades. The organization shall also conduct research
22 to measure the success of the centers of excellence
23 at encouraging the center’s delegate agencies, addi-
24 tional Head Start agencies, and other providers of
25 early childhood services in the communities involved

1 to meet measurable improvement goals, particularly
2 in the area of school readiness.

3 “(2) REPORT.—Not later than 48 months after
4 the date of enactment of the Head Start for School
5 Readiness Act, the organization shall prepare and
6 submit to the Secretary and Congress a report con-
7 taining the results of the research described in para-
8 graph (1).

9 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
10 are authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years
11 2008 through 2012—

12 “(1) \$90,000,000 to make bonus grants to cen-
13 ters of excellence under subsection (b) to carry out
14 activities described in subsection (d);

15 “(2) \$500,000 to pay for the administrative
16 costs of the Secretary in carrying out this section;
17 and

18 “(3) \$2,000,000 for research activities de-
19 scribed in subsection (e).”.

20 **SEC. 10. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-**
21 **CIES.**

22 Section 642 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837)
23 is amended—

24 (1) by striking all that precedes “In order” the
25 first place it appears and inserting the following:

1 **“SEC. 642. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-**
2 **CIES.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—”; and

4 (2) by striking subsections (b) through (e) and
5 inserting the following:

6 “(b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In order to be
7 designated as a Head Start agency under this subchapter,
8 a Head Start agency shall also—

9 “(1) establish a program with all standards set
10 forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular atten-
11 tion to the standards set forth in subparagraphs (A)
12 and (B) of such section;

13 “(2) demonstrate the capacity to serve eligible
14 children with scientifically based curricula and other
15 interventions and support services that help promote
16 the school readiness of children participating in the
17 program;

18 “(3) establish effective procedures and provide
19 for the regular assessment of Head Start children,
20 including observational and direct formal assess-
21 ment, where appropriate;

22 “(4) establish effective procedures, for deter-
23 mining the needs of children, that include high qual-
24 ity research based developmental screening tools that
25 have been demonstrated to be valid, reliable, and ac-
26 curate for children from a range of backgrounds;

1 “(5) require each delegate agency to create a
2 policy committee, which shall—

3 “(A) be comprised of members of the com-
4 munity to be served, including parents of chil-
5 dren who are currently enrolled in the Head
6 Start programs of the Head Start agency; and

7 “(B) serve in an advisory capacity to the
8 delegate agency, to make decisions and rec-
9 ommendations regarding program planning and
10 operation and parental involvement.

11 “(6) seek the involvement of parents, area resi-
12 dents, and local business in the design and imple-
13 mentation of the program;

14 “(7) provide for the regular participation of
15 parents and area residents in the implementation of
16 the program;

17 “(8) provide technical and other support needed
18 to enable such parents and area residents to secure,
19 on their own behalf, available assistance from public
20 and private sources;

21 “(9) establish effective procedures to facilitate
22 the involvement of parents of participating children
23 in activities designed to help such parents become
24 full partners in the education of their children, and
25 to afford such parents the opportunity to participate

1 in the development and overall conduct of the pro-
2 gram at the local level;

3 “(10) conduct outreach to schools in which
4 Head Start children will enroll, local educational
5 agencies, the local business community, community-
6 based organizations, faith-based organizations, mu-
7 seums, and libraries to generate support and lever-
8 age the resources of the entire local community in
9 order to improve school readiness;

10 “(11) offer (directly or through referral to local
11 entities, such as entities carrying out Even Start
12 programs under subpart 3 of part B of title I of the
13 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
14 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.)), to parents of partici-
15 pating children, family literacy services, and par-
16 enting skills training;

17 “(12) offer to parents of participating children
18 substance abuse and other counseling (either directly
19 or through referral to local entities), if needed, in-
20 cluding information on the effect of drug exposure
21 on infants and fetal alcohol syndrome;

22 “(13) at the option of such agency, offer (di-
23 rectly or through referral to local entities), to such
24 parents—

1 “(A) training in basic child development
2 (including cognitive development);

3 “(B) assistance in developing literacy and
4 communication skills;

5 “(C) opportunities to share experiences
6 with other parents (including parent mentor re-
7 lationships);

8 “(D) regular in-home visitation; or

9 “(E) any other activity designed to help
10 such parents become full partners in the edu-
11 cation of their children;

12 “(14) provide, with respect to each partici-
13 pating family, a family needs assessment that in-
14 cludes consultation with such parents (including fos-
15 ter parents and grandparents, where applicable)
16 about the benefits of parent involvement and about
17 the activities described in this subsection in which
18 such parents may choose to be involved (taking into
19 consideration their specific family needs, work sched-
20 ules, and other responsibilities);

21 “(15) consider providing services to assist
22 younger siblings of children participating in its Head
23 Start program, to obtain health services from other
24 sources;

1 “(16) perform community outreach to encour-
2 age individuals previously unaffiliated with Head
3 Start programs to participate in its Head Start pro-
4 gram as volunteers;

5 “(17)(A) inform custodial parents in single-par-
6 ent families that participate in programs, activities,
7 or services carried out or provided under this sub-
8 chapter about the availability of child support serv-
9 ices for purposes of establishing paternity and ac-
10 quiring child support; and

11 “(B) refer eligible parents to the child support
12 offices of State and local governments;

13 “(18) provide parents of limited English pro-
14 ficient children outreach and information in an un-
15 derstandable and uniform format and, to the extent
16 practicable, in a language that the parents can un-
17 derstand; and

18 “(19) at the option of such agency, partner
19 with an institution of higher education and a non-
20 profit organization to provide college students with
21 the opportunity to serve as mentors or reading part-
22 ners to Head Start participants.

23 “(c) TRANSITION ACTIVITIES TO FACILITATE CON-
24 TINUED PROGRESS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Head Start agency
2 shall collaborate with the entities listed in this sub-
3 section, to the maximum extent possible, to ensure
4 the successful transition of Head Start children to
5 school, so that such children are able to build upon
6 the developmental and educational gains achieved in
7 Head Start programs in further schooling.

8 “(2) COORDINATION.—

9 “(A) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—In
10 communities where both public prekindergarten
11 programs and Head Start programs operate, a
12 Head Start agency shall collaborate and coordi-
13 nate activities with the local educational agency
14 or other public agency responsible for the oper-
15 ation of the prekindergarten program and pro-
16 viders of prekindergarten, including outreach
17 activities to identify eligible children.

18 “(B) ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.—Head Start
19 staff shall, with the permission of the parents
20 of children enrolled in Head Start programs,
21 regularly communicate with the elementary
22 schools such children will be attending to—

23 “(i) share information about such
24 children;

1 “(ii) collaborate with the teachers in
2 such elementary schools regarding teaching
3 strategies and options; and

4 “(iii) ensure a smooth transition to el-
5 ementary school for such children.

6 “(C) OTHER PROGRAMS.—The head of
7 each Head Start agency shall coordinate activi-
8 ties and collaborate with the State agency re-
9 sponsible for administering the State program
10 carried out under the Child Care and Develop-
11 ment Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858
12 et seq.), other entities carrying out early child-
13 hood education and development programs, and
14 the agencies responsible for administering sec-
15 tion 106 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
16 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a), parts B and
17 E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
18 U.S.C. 621 et seq. and 670 et seq.), programs
19 under subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-
20 Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
21 11431 et seq.), Even Start programs under
22 subpart 3 of part B of title I of the Elementary
23 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
24 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.), and programs under sec-
25 tion 619 and part C of the Individuals with

1 Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419,
2 1431 et seq.), serving the children and families
3 served by the Head Start agency.

4 “(3) COLLABORATION.—A Head Start agency
5 shall take steps to coordinate activities with the local
6 educational agency serving the community involved
7 and with schools in which children participating in
8 a Head Start program operated by such agency will
9 enroll following such program, including—

10 “(A) collaborating on the shared use of
11 transportation and facilities, in appropriate
12 cases;

13 “(B) collaborating to reduce the duplica-
14 tion of services while increasing the program
15 participation of underserved populations of eli-
16 gible children; and

17 “(C) exchanging information on the provi-
18 sion of noneducational services to such children.

19 “(4) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—In order to
20 promote the continued involvement of the parents of
21 children that participate in Head Start programs in
22 the education of their children, the Head Start agen-
23 cy shall—

24 “(A) provide training to the parents—

1 “(i) to inform the parents about their
2 rights and responsibilities concerning the
3 education of their children; and

4 “(ii) to enable the parents, upon the
5 transition of their children to school—

6 “(I) to understand and work with
7 schools in order to communicate with
8 teachers and other school personnel;

9 “(II) to support the schoolwork
10 of their children; and

11 “(III) to participate as appro-
12 priate in decisions relating to the edu-
13 cation of their children; and

14 “(B) take other actions, as appropriate
15 and feasible, to support the active involvement
16 of the parents with schools, school personnel,
17 and school-related organizations.

18 “(d) ASSESSMENT OR EVALUATION.—Each Head
19 Start agency shall adopt, in consultation with experts in
20 child development and with classroom teachers, an assess-
21 ment or evaluation to measure whether classroom teachers
22 have mastered the functions described in section
23 648A(a)(1) and have attained a level of literacy appro-
24 priate to implement Head Start curricula.

1 “(e) FUNDED ENROLLMENT; WAITING LIST.—Each
2 Head Start agency shall enroll 100 percent of its funded
3 enrollment and maintain an active waiting list at all times
4 with ongoing outreach to the community and activities to
5 identify underserved populations.

6 “(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING
7 PLAN.—In order to receive funds under this subchapter,
8 a Head Start agency shall develop an annual technical as-
9 sistance and training plan. Such plan shall be based on
10 the agency’s self-assessment, the communitywide needs as-
11 sessment, and the needs of parents to be served by such
12 agency.”.

13 **SEC. 11. HEAD START TRANSITION.**

14 Section 642A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
15 9837a) is amended to read as follows:

16 **“SEC. 642A. HEAD START TRANSITION AND ALIGNMENT**
17 **WITH K-12 EDUCATION.**

18 “Each Head Start agency shall take steps to coordi-
19 nate activities with the local educational agency serving
20 the community involved and with schools in which children
21 participating in a Head Start program operated by such
22 agency will enroll following such program, which may in-
23 clude—

24 “(1) developing and implementing a systematic
25 procedure for transferring, with parental consent,

1 Head Start program records for each participating
2 child to the school in which such child will enroll;

3 “(2) establishing ongoing channels of commu-
4 nication between Head Start staff and their counter-
5 parts in the schools (including teachers, social work-
6 ers, health staff, and local educational agency liai-
7 sons designated under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the
8 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
9 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii))) to facilitate coordination
10 of programs;

11 “(3) establishing comprehensive transition poli-
12 cies and procedures that support children
13 transitioning to school, including by engaging the
14 local education agency in the establishment of such
15 policies;

16 “(4) developing a continuity of developmentally
17 appropriate curricular objectives and practices be-
18 tween the Head Start agency and local educational
19 agency, that reflect shared expectations for chil-
20 dren’s learning and development for the transition to
21 school;

22 “(5) conducting outreach to parents, elemen-
23 tary school (such as kindergarten) teachers, and
24 Head Start teachers to discuss the educational, de-
25 velopmental, and other needs of individual children;

1 “(6) organizing and participating in joint train-
2 ing, including transition-related training of school
3 staff and Head Start staff;

4 “(7) developing and implementing a family out-
5 reach and support program, in cooperation with en-
6 tities carrying out parental involvement efforts
7 under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
8 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), and
9 family outreach and support efforts under subtitle B
10 of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-
11 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.), taking into con-
12 sideration the language needs of limited English pro-
13 ficient parents;

14 “(8) assisting families, administrators, and
15 teachers in enhancing educational and developmental
16 continuity and continuity of parental involvement in
17 activities between Head Start services and elemen-
18 tary school classes;

19 “(9) linking the services provided in such Head
20 Start program with the education services, including
21 services relating to language, literacy, and
22 numeracy, provided by such local educational agen-
23 cy;

24 “(10) helping parents understand the impor-
25 tance of parental involvement in a child’s academic

1 success while teaching the parents strategies for
2 maintaining parental involvement as their child
3 moves from the Head Start program to elementary
4 school;

5 “(11) helping parents understand the instruc-
6 tional and other services provided by the school in
7 which their child will enroll after participation in the
8 Head Start program; and

9 “(12) coordinating activities and collaborating
10 to ensure that curricula used in the Head Start pro-
11 gram are aligned with State early learning standards
12 and the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework
13 with regard to cognitive development (including lan-
14 guage, pre-literacy, and premathematics com-
15 petencies), and social, emotional, and physical com-
16 petencies that children entering kindergarten are ex-
17 pected to demonstrate.”.

18 **SEC. 12. SUBMISSION OF PLANS TO GOVERNORS.**

19 Section 643 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9838)
20 is amended—

21 (1) in the first sentence—

22 (A) by striking “chief executive officer”
23 and inserting “Governor”; and

24 (B) by striking “45” and inserting “30”;

1 (2) in the last sentence, by striking “, how-
2 ever,”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following: “This
4 section shall not apply to contracts, agreements,
5 grants, loans, or other assistance for Indian Head
6 Start programs and migrant and seasonal Head
7 Start programs.”.

8 **SEC. 13. COSTS OF DEVELOPING AND ADMINISTERING A**
9 **PROGRAM.**

10 Section 644(b) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
11 9839(b)) is amended—

12 (1) by striking “Except” and inserting “(1) Ex-
13 cept”; and

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

15 “(2)(A) The limitation prescribed by paragraph (1)
16 shall not prohibit a Head Start agency from expending
17 an amount in excess of allowable direct costs associated
18 with developing and administering a program assisted
19 under this subchapter, if—

20 “(i) the agency submits an application for a
21 grant year containing an assurance that—

22 “(I) the agency will serve a greater per-
23 centage of children in the community involved
24 than were served in the preceding grant year;
25 and

1 “(II) the agency will not diminish services
2 provided to currently enrolled children (as of
3 the date of the application), including the num-
4 ber of hours and days such services are pro-
5 vided;

6 “(ii) any such excess amount does not exceed 5
7 percent of the total costs, including the required
8 non-Federal contributions to such costs, of such pro-
9 gram; and

10 “(iii) in the event that the applicant applies to
11 expend any such excess amount in a subsequent
12 grant year, the applicant continues to serve the same
13 number of children as proposed in the initial applica-
14 tion submitted under this paragraph and accom-
15 plishes, relative to the prior Head Start agency, at
16 least 3 of the 5 improved outcomes.

17 “(B) In subparagraph (A), the term ‘improved out-
18 come’ means—

19 “(i) an increase in average teacher salary;

20 “(ii) an increase in the number of qualified
21 teachers;

22 “(iii) a significant increase in the number of
23 children who receive full-day Head Start services;

24 “(iv) a decrease in the caseload for family work-
25 ers; or

1 “(v) an increase in transportation options for
2 families.

3 “(C) The Secretary shall approve not more than 10
4 applications described in subparagraph (A) for a fiscal
5 year, and to the extent practicable shall ensure participa-
6 tion under this paragraph of a diverse group of Head
7 Start agencies, including public, private nonprofit, and
8 for-profit agencies operating Head Start programs.”.

9 **SEC. 14. PARTICIPATION IN HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

10 Section 645 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9840)
11 is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1)—

14 (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
15 “130 percent of” after “below”; and

16 (ii) in the flush matter at the end, by
17 adding at the end the following: “A home-
18 less child shall be deemed eligible for Head
19 Start services.”; and

20 (B) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(3)(A) In this paragraph:

22 (i) The term ‘dependent’ has the meaning
23 given the term in paragraphs (2)(A) and (4)(A)(i) of
24 section 401(a) of title 37, United States Code.

1 “(ii) The terms ‘member’ and ‘uniformed serv-
2 ices’ have the meanings given the terms in para-
3 graphs (23) and (3), respectively, of section 101 of
4 title 37, United States Code.

5 “(B) The following amounts of pay and allowance of
6 a member of the uniformed services shall not be consid-
7 ered to be income for purposes of determining the eligi-
8 bility of a dependent of such member for programs funded
9 under this subchapter:

10 “(i) The amount of any special pay payable
11 under section 310 of title 37, United States Code,
12 relating to duty subject to hostile fire or imminent
13 danger.

14 “(ii) The amount of basic allowance payable
15 under section 403 of such title, including any such
16 amount that is provided on behalf of the member for
17 housing that is acquired or constructed under the al-
18 ternative authority for the acquisition and improve-
19 ment of military housing under subchapter IV of
20 chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, or any
21 other related provision of law.

22 “(4) After demonstrating a need through a com-
23 munitywide needs assessment, a Head Start agency may
24 apply to the Secretary to convert part-day sessions, par-

1 ticularly consecutive part-day sessions, into full-day ses-
2 sions.

3 “(5)(A) Consistent with a communitywide needs as-
4 sessment, a Head Start agency may apply to the Secretary
5 to serve additional infants and toddlers if the agency sub-
6 mits an application to the Secretary containing—

7 “(i) a description of how the needs of pregnant
8 women, infants, and toddlers will be addressed in ac-
9 cordance with section 645A(b), and with regulations
10 prescribed by the Secretary pursuant to section
11 641A in areas including the agency’s approach to
12 child development and provision of health services,
13 approach to family and community partnerships,
14 and approach to program design and management;

15 “(ii) a description of how the needs of eligible
16 Head Start children are being and will be served;

17 “(iii) assurances that the agency will participate
18 in technical assistance activities (including a plan-
19 ning period, start-up site visits, and national train-
20 ing activities) in the same manner as recipients of
21 grants under section 645A; and

22 “(iv) evidence that the agency meets the same
23 eligibility criteria as recipients of grants under sec-
24 tion 645A.

1 “(B) In approving such applications, the Secretary
2 shall take into account the costs of serving persons under
3 section 645A.

4 “(C) Any Head Start agency designated under this
5 section and permitted to use grant funds under subpara-
6 graph (A) to serve additional infants and toddlers shall
7 be considered to be an Early Head Start agency and shall
8 be subject to the same rules, regulations, and conditions
9 as apply to recipients of grants under section 645A for
10 those grant funds.”; and

11 (2) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the
12 following:

13 “(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act,
14 an Indian tribe that operates both a Head Start program
15 and an Early Head Start program under section 645A
16 may, at its discretion, at any time during the grant period
17 involved, reallocate funds between the Head Start pro-
18 gram and the Early Head Start program in order to ad-
19 dress fluctuations in client population, including pregnant
20 women and children birth to compulsory school age. The
21 reallocation of such funds between programs by an Indian
22 tribe shall not serve as the basis for the Secretary to re-
23 duce a base grant (as defined in section 641A(g)(1)) for
24 either program in succeeding years.”.

1 **SEC. 15. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

2 Section 645A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
3 9840a) is amended—

4 (1) by striking the section heading and insert-
5 ing the following:

6 **“SEC. 645A. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.”;**

7 (2) in subsection (b)—

8 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “provide
9 services to parents to support their role as par-
10 ents” and inserting “provide additional services
11 and research-based activities to parents to sup-
12 port their role as parents (including parenting
13 skills training and training in basic child devel-
14 opment)”;

15 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6),
16 (7), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (6), (8), (11),
17 (12), and (13), respectively;

18 (C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
19 following:

20 “(5) where appropriate and in conjunction with
21 services provided under this section to the children’s
22 immediate families (or as approved by the Sec-
23 retary), provide home-based services to family child
24 care homes, and kin caregivers, caring for infants
25 and toddlers who also participate in Early Head
26 Start programs, to provide continuity in supporting

1 the children’s cognitive, social, emotional, and phys-
2 ical development;”;

3 (D) in paragraph (6), as redesignated by
4 subparagraph (B)—

5 (i) by inserting “(including home-
6 based services)” after “with services”;

7 (ii) by inserting “and homeless infants
8 and toddlers” after “disabilities”; and

9 (iii) by inserting “, and family sup-
10 port services” after “health services”;

11 (E) by inserting after paragraph (6), as re-
12 designated by subparagraph (B), the following:

13 “(7) ensure that children with documented be-
14 havioral problems, including problems involving be-
15 havior related to prior or existing trauma, receive
16 appropriate screening and deferral;”;

17 (F) by inserting after paragraph (8), as re-
18 designated by subparagraph (B), the following:

19 “(9) develop and implement a systematic proce-
20 dure for transitioning children and parents from an
21 Early Head Start program into a Head Start pro-
22 gram or another local early childhood education pro-
23 gram;

24 “(10) establish channels of communication be-
25 tween staff of Early Head Start programs and staff

1 of Head Start programs or other local early child-
2 hood education programs, to facilitate the coordina-
3 tion of programs;” and

4 (G) in paragraph (12), as redesignated by
5 subparagraph (B)—

6 (i) by striking “and providers” and in-
7 serting “, providers”; and

8 (ii) by inserting “, and the agencies
9 responsible for administering section 106
10 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treat-
11 ment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) and parts B
12 and E of title IV of the Social Security Act
13 (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq. and 670 et seq.)”
14 after “(20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.)”;

15 (3) in subsection (d)—

16 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, in-
17 cluding tribal governments and entities oper-
18 ating migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
19 grams” after “subchapter”; and

20 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, in-
21 cluding community-based organizations” after
22 “private entities”;

23 (4) in subsection (g)(2)(B), by striking clause
24 (iv) and inserting the following:

1 “(iv) providing professional develop-
2 ment and personnel enhancement activi-
3 ties, including the provision of funds to re-
4 cipients of grants under subsection (a), re-
5 lating to—

6 “(I) effective methods of con-
7 ducting parent education, home vis-
8 iting, and promoting quality early
9 childhood development;

10 “(II) recruiting and retaining
11 qualified staff; and

12 “(III) increasing program partici-
13 pation for underserved populations of
14 eligible children.”;

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

16 “(h) STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT.—

17 “(1) CENTER-BASED STAFF.—The Secretary
18 shall establish staff qualification goals to ensure
19 that, not later than September 30, 2012, all teachers
20 providing direct services to Early Head Start chil-
21 dren and families in Early Head Start centers have
22 a minimum of a child development associate creden-
23 tial or an associate degree, and have been trained
24 (or have equivalent course work) in early childhood

1 development with a focus on infant and toddler de-
2 velopment.

3 “(2) HOME VISITOR STAFF.—

4 “(A) STANDARDS.—In order to further en-
5 hance the quality of home visiting services pro-
6 vided to families of children participating in
7 home-based, center-based, or combination pro-
8 gram options under this subchapter, the Sec-
9 retary shall establish standards for training,
10 qualifications, and the conduct of home visits
11 for home visitor staff in Early Head Start pro-
12 grams.

13 “(B) CONTENTS.—The standards for
14 training, qualifications, and the conduct of
15 home visits shall include content related to—

16 “(i) structured child-focused home vis-
17 iting that promotes parents’ ability to sup-
18 port the child’s cognitive, social, emotional,
19 and physical development;

20 “(ii) effective strengths-based parent
21 education, including methods to encourage
22 parents as their child’s first teachers;

23 “(iii) early childhood development
24 with respect to children from birth through
25 age 3;

1 “(iv) methods to help parents promote
2 emergent literacy in their children from
3 birth through age 3, including use of re-
4 search-based strategies to support the de-
5 velopment of literacy and language skills
6 for children who are limited English pro-
7 ficient;

8 “(v) health, vision, hearing, and devel-
9 opmental screenings;

10 “(vi) strategies for helping families
11 coping with crisis; and

12 “(vii) the relationship of health and
13 well-being of pregnant women to prenatal
14 and early child development.”.

15 **SEC. 16. APPEALS, NOTICE, AND HEARING AND RECORDS**
16 **AND FINANCIAL AUDITS.**

17 (a) APPEALS, NOTICE, AND HEARING.—Section
18 646(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9841(a)) is
19 amended by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting
20 the following:

21 “(3) financial assistance under this subchapter
22 may be terminated or reduced, and an application
23 for refunding may be denied, after the recipient has
24 been afforded reasonable notice and opportunity for
25 a full and fair hearing, including—

1 “(A) a right to file a notice of appeal of a
2 decision within 30 days of notice of the decision
3 from the Secretary; and

4 “(B) access to a full and fair hearing of
5 the appeal, not later than 120 days from receipt
6 by the Secretary of the notice of appeal;

7 “(4) the Secretary shall develop and publish
8 procedures (including mediation procedures) to be
9 used in order to—

10 “(A) resolve in a timely manner conflicts
11 potentially leading to an adverse action be-
12 tween—

13 “(i) recipients of financial assistance
14 under this subchapter; and

15 “(ii) delegate agencies, or policy coun-
16 cils of Head Start agencies;

17 “(B) avoid the need for an administrative
18 hearing on an adverse action; and

19 “(C) prohibit a Head Start agency from
20 expending financial assistance awarded under
21 this subchapter for the purpose of paying legal
22 fees pursuant to an appeal under paragraph
23 (3), except that such fees shall be reimbursed
24 by the Secretary if the agency prevails in such
25 decision; and

1 “(5) the Secretary may suspend funds to a
2 grantee under this subchapter—

3 “(A) except as provided in subparagraph
4 (B), for not more than 30 days; or

5 “(B) in the case of a grantee under this
6 subchapter that has multiple and recurring de-
7 ficiencies for 180 days or more and has not
8 made substantial and significant progress to-
9 ward meeting the goals of the grantee’s quality
10 improvement plan or eliminating all deficiencies
11 identified by the Secretary, during the hearing
12 of an appeal described in paragraph (3), for
13 any amount of time, including permanently.”.

14 (b) RECORDS AND FINANCIAL AUDITS.—

15 (1) HEADING.—Section 647 of the Head Start
16 Act (42 U.S.C. 9842) is amended by striking the
17 section heading and inserting the following:
18 “RECORDS AND FINANCIAL AUDITS”.

19 (2) RECIPIENTS.—Section 647(a) of the Head
20 Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9842(a)) is amended by strik-
21 ing “Each recipient of” and inserting “Each Head
22 Start agency, Head Start center, or Early Head
23 Start center receiving”.

24 (3) FINANCIAL AUDITS.—Subsections (a) and
25 (b) of section 647 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.

1 9842) are amended by striking “audit” and insert-
2 ing “financial audit”.

3 (4) ACCOUNTING.—Section 647 of the Head
4 Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9842) is amended by adding
5 at the end the following:

6 “(c) Each Head Start agency, Head Start center, or
7 Early Head Start center receiving financial assistance
8 under this subchapter shall maintain, and annually submit
9 to the Secretary, a complete accounting of its administra-
10 tive expenses, including expenses for salaries and com-
11 pensation funded under this subchapter and provide such
12 additional documentation as the Secretary may require.”.

13 **SEC. 17. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.**

14 Section 648 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843)
15 is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “(b) and
17 (c)” and inserting “(b), (c), and (d)”;

18 (2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e)
19 as subsections (c) through (f), respectively;

20 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(b) The Secretary shall make available funds set
23 aside in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) to support a State system
24 of early childhood education training and technical assist-
25 ance (which may include such a system for a consortium

1 of States within a region) that improves the capacity of
2 Head Start programs to deliver services in accordance
3 with the standards described in section 641A(a)(1), with
4 particular attention to the standards described in subpara-
5 graphs (A) and (B) of such section. The Secretary shall—

6 “(1) ensure that agencies with demonstrated
7 expertise in providing high-quality training and tech-
8 nical assistance to improve the delivery of Head
9 Start services, including the State Head Start Asso-
10 ciations, State agencies, Indian Head Start agencies,
11 migrant and seasonal Head Start agencies, and
12 other entities providing training and technical assist-
13 ance in early education, for the State (including
14 such a consortium of States within a region) are in-
15 cluded in the planning and coordination of the sys-
16 tem; and

17 “(2) encourage States (including such con-
18 sortia) to supplement the funds authorized in section
19 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) with Federal, State, or local funds
20 other than Head Start funds, to expand training and
21 technical assistance activities beyond Head Start
22 agencies to include other providers of other early
23 childhood services within a State (including such a
24 consortium).”;

25 (4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), by striking
2 “educational performance measures” and in-
3 serting “measures”;

4 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and
5 for activities described in section 1222(d) of the
6 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
7 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6372(d))” after “children with
8 disabilities”;

9 (C) in paragraph (5), by inserting “, in-
10 cluding assessing the needs of homeless children
11 and their families” after “needs assessment”;

12 (D) by striking paragraph (7) and insert-
13 ing the following:

14 “(7) assist Head Start agencies in better serv-
15 ing the needs of families with very young children,
16 including providing support and program planning
17 and implementation assistance for Head Start agen-
18 cies that apply to serve or are serving additional in-
19 fants and toddlers with funds previously used for 3-
20 and 4-year-olds in accordance with section
21 645(a)(5);”;

22 (E) in paragraph (10), by striking “; and”
23 and inserting a semicolon;

24 (F) in paragraph (11), by striking the pe-
25 riod and inserting a semicolon; and

1 (G) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(12) assist Head Start agencies in increasing
3 the program participation of homeless children;

4 “(13) provide training and technical assistance
5 to members of governing bodies, policy councils, and,
6 as appropriate, policy committees, to ensure that the
7 members can fulfill their functions;

8 “(14) provide training and technical assistance
9 to Head Start agencies to assist such agencies in
10 conducting self-assessments;

11 “(15) assist Head Start agencies in improving
12 outreach to, and the quality of services available to,
13 limited English proficient children and their families,
14 including such services to help such families learn
15 English, particularly in communities that have experi-
16 enced a large percentage increase in the population
17 of limited English proficient individuals, as meas-
18 ured by the Bureau of the Census;

19 “(16) provide activities that help ensure that
20 Head Start programs have qualified staff who can
21 promote prevention of childhood obesity by inte-
22 grating into the programs developmentally appro-
23 priate research-based initiatives that stress the im-
24 portance of physical activity and nutrition choices

1 made by children and family, through daily class-
2 room and family routines; and

3 “(17) assist Indian Head Start agencies to pro-
4 vide on-site and off-site training to staff, using ap-
5 proaches that identify and enhance the positive re-
6 sources and strengths of Indian children and fami-
7 lies, to improve parent and family engagement and
8 staff development, particularly with regard to child
9 and family development.”;

10 (5) in subsection (e), as so redesignated, by in-
11 sserting “including community-based organizations,”
12 after “nonprofit entities,”;

13 (6) in subsection (f), as so redesignated, by in-
14 sserting “or providing services to children determined
15 to be abused or neglected, training for personnel
16 providing services to children referred by entities
17 providing child welfare services or receiving child
18 welfare services,” after “English language”); and

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

20 “(g) The Secretary shall provide, either directly or
21 through grants or other arrangements, funds for training
22 of Head Start personnel in addressing the unique needs
23 of migrant and seasonal farmworking families, families
24 with limited English proficiency, and homeless families.

1 “(h) Funds used under this section shall be used to
2 provide high quality, sustained, and intensive, training
3 and technical assistance in order to have a positive and
4 lasting impact on classroom instruction. Funds shall be
5 used to carry out activities related to 1 or more of the
6 following:

7 “(1) Education and early childhood develop-
8 ment.

9 “(2) Child health, nutrition, and safety.

10 “(3) Family and community partnerships.

11 “(4) Other areas that impact the quality or
12 overall effectiveness of Head Start programs.

13 “(i) Funds used under this section for training shall
14 be used for needs identified annually by a grant applicant
15 or delegate agency in its program improvement plan, ex-
16 cept that funds shall not be used for long-distance travel
17 expenses for training activities—

18 “(1) available locally or regionally; or

19 “(2) substantially similar to locally or regionally
20 available training activities.

21 “(j)(1) To support local efforts to enhance early lan-
22 guage and preliteracy development of children in Head
23 Start programs, and to provide the children with high-
24 quality oral language skills, and environments that are
25 rich in literature, in which to acquire language and

1 preliteracy skills, each Head Start agency, in coordination
2 with the appropriate State office and the relevant State
3 Head Start collaboration office, shall ensure that all of
4 the agency's Head Start teachers receive ongoing training
5 in language and emergent literacy (referred to in this sub-
6 section as 'literacy training'), including appropriate cur-
7 ricula and assessments to improve instruction and learn-
8 ing. Such training shall include training in methods to
9 promote phonological awareness (including phonemic
10 awareness) and vocabulary development in an age-appro-
11 priate and culturally and linguistically appropriate man-
12 ner.

13 “(2) The literacy training shall be provided at the
14 local level in order—

15 “(A) to be provided, to the extent feasible, in
16 the context of the Head Start programs of the State
17 involved and the children the program involved
18 serves; and

19 “(B) to be tailored to the early childhood lit-
20 eracy background and experience of the teachers in-
21 volved.

22 “(3) The literacy training shall be culturally and lin-
23 guistically appropriate and support children's development
24 in their home language.

1 “(4) The literacy training shall include training in
2 how to work with parents to enhance positive language
3 and early literacy development at home.

4 “(5) The literacy training shall include specific meth-
5 ods to best address the needs of children who are limited
6 English proficient.

7 “(6) The literacy training shall include training on
8 how to best address the language and literacy needs of
9 children with disabilities, including training on how to
10 work with specialists in language development.”.

11 **SEC. 18. STAFF QUALIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT.**

12 Section 648A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
13 9843a) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (2)
15 and inserting the following:

16 “(2) DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
18 establish staff qualification goals to ensure
19 that—

20 “(i) not later than September 30,
21 2012, all Head Start teachers nationwide
22 in center-based programs have at least—

23 “(I)(aa) an associate degree (or
24 equivalent coursework) relating to
25 early childhood; or

1 “(bb) an associate degree in a re-
2 lated educational area and, to the ex-
3 tent practicable, coursework relating
4 to early childhood; and

5 “(II) demonstrated teaching com-
6 petencies, as determined by the pro-
7 gram director involved (including, at a
8 minimum, an appropriate level of lit-
9 eracy, a demonstrated capacity to be
10 highly engaged with children, and a
11 demonstrated ability to effectively im-
12 plement an early childhood cur-
13 riculum);

14 “(ii) not later than September 30,
15 2010, all Head Start curriculum specialists
16 and education coordinators nationwide in
17 center-based programs have—

18 “(I) the capacity to offer assist-
19 ance to other teachers in the imple-
20 mentation and adaptation of curricula
21 to the group and individual needs of a
22 class; and

23 “(II)(aa) a baccalaureate or ad-
24 vanced degree relating to early child-
25 hood; or

1 “(bb) a baccalaureate or ad-
2 vanced degree and coursework equiva-
3 lent to a major relating to early child-
4 hood;

5 “(iii) not later than September 30,
6 2010, all Head Start teaching assistants
7 nationwide in center-based programs
8 have—

9 “(I) at least a child development
10 associate credential;

11 “(II) enrolled in a program lead-
12 ing to an associate or baccalaureate
13 degree; or

14 “(III) enrolled in a child develop-
15 ment associate credential program to
16 be completed within 2 years; and

17 “(iv) not later than September 30,
18 2013, 50 percent of all Head Start teach-
19 ers in center-based programs in each State
20 (and geographic region for Indian Head
21 Start programs and for migrant and sea-
22 sonal Head Start programs) have a bacca-
23 laureate degree relating to early childhood
24 (or a related educational area), and dem-
25 onstrated teaching competencies, as deter-

1 number and percentage of class-
2 room instructors in center-based
3 programs with child development
4 associate credentials or associate,
5 baccalaureate, or graduate de-
6 grees; and

7 “(II) compile and submit a sum-
8 mary of all program reports described
9 in subclause (I)(bb) to the Committee
10 on Education and Labor of the House
11 of Representatives and the Committee
12 on Health, Education, Labor, and
13 Pensions of the Senate.

14 “(ii) DEMONSTRATE PROGRESS.—A
15 Head Start agency may demonstrate
16 progress by partnering with institutions of
17 higher education or other programs that
18 recruit, train, place, and support college
19 students to deliver an innovative early
20 learning program to preschool children.

21 “(D) SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
22 retary shall establish requirements to ensure
23 that, in order to enable Head Start agencies to
24 comply with the requirements of subparagraph
25 (A), individuals who receive financial assistance

1 under this subchapter to pursue a degree de-
2 scribed in subparagraph (A) shall—

3 “(i) teach or work in a Head Start
4 program for a minimum of 3 years after
5 receiving the degree; or

6 “(ii) repay the total or a prorated
7 amount of the financial assistance received
8 based on the length of service completed
9 after receiving the degree.”;

10 (2) in subsection (c)—

11 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at
12 the end;

13 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking the pe-
14 riod and inserting “; and”; and

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

16 “(4) promote the use of appropriate strategies
17 to meet the needs of special populations (including
18 limited English proficient populations).”;

19 (3) in subsection (d)(3)(C) by inserting “, in-
20 cluding a center,” after “any agency”; and

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

22 “(f) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS.—Every
23 Head Start agency and center shall create, in consultation
24 with employees of the agency or center (including family
25 service workers), a professional development plan for em-

1 ployees who provide direct services to children, including
2 a plan for classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, and
3 education coordinators to meet the requirements set forth
4 in subsection (a).”.

5 **SEC. 19. TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES HEAD**
6 **START PARTNERSHIP.**

7 The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) is
8 amended by inserting after section 648A the following:

9 **“SEC. 648B. TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY HEAD START**
10 **PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**

11 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to
12 promote social competencies and school readiness in In-
13 dian children.

14 “(b) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY HEAD START
15 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.—

16 “(1) GRANTS.—The Secretary is authorized to
17 award grants, for periods of not less than 5 years,
18 to Tribal Colleges and Universities to—

19 “(A) implement education programs that
20 include education concerning tribal culture and
21 language and increase the number of associate,
22 baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in early
23 childhood education and related fields that are
24 earned by Indian Head Start agency staff mem-
25 bers, parents of children served by such an

1 agency, and members of the tribal community
2 involved;

3 “(B) develop and implement the programs
4 under subparagraph (A) in technology-mediated
5 formats, including providing the programs
6 through such means as distance learning and
7 use of advanced technology, as appropriate; and

8 “(C) provide technology literacy programs
9 for Indian Head Start agency staff members
10 and children and families of children served by
11 such an agency.

12 “(2) STAFFING.—The Secretary shall ensure
13 that the American Indian Programs Branch of the
14 Head Start Bureau of the Department of Health
15 and Human Services shall have staffing sufficient to
16 administer the programs under this section and to
17 provide appropriate technical assistance to Tribal
18 Colleges and Universities receiving grants under this
19 section.

20 “(c) APPLICATION.—Each Tribal College or Univer-
21 sity desiring a grant under this section shall submit an
22 application to the Secretary, at such time, in such manner,
23 and containing such information as the Secretary may re-
24 quire, including a certification that the Tribal College or
25 University has established a partnership with 1 or more

1 Indian Head Start agencies for the purpose of conducting
2 the activities described in subsection (b).

3 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,
5 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as may
6 be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

7 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
9 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
10 meaning given such term in section 101(a) of the
11 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

12 “(2) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The
13 term ‘Tribal College or University’—

14 “(A) has the meaning given such term in
15 section 316 of the Higher Education Act of
16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c); and

17 “(B) means an institution determined to
18 be accredited or a candidate for accreditation
19 by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or
20 association.”.

21 **SEC. 20. RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND EVALUATION.**

22 Section 649 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9844)
23 is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by inserting “, chil-
25 dren determined to be abused or neglected, homeless

1 children, and children in foster care” after “children
2 with disabilities”;

3 (2) in subsection (d)—

4 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6),
5 (7), (8), (9), and (10), as paragraphs (6), (7),
6 (8), (9), (10), and (11);

7 (B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
8 following:

9 “(5) identify successful strategies that promote
10 good oral health and provide effective linkages to
11 quality dental services through pediatric dental re-
12 ferral networks, for infants and toddlers partici-
13 pating in Early Head Start programs and children
14 participating in Head Start programs;”;

15 (C) in paragraph (9), as redesignated by
16 subparagraph (A), by adding “and” after the
17 semicolon;

18 (D) by striking paragraph (10), as redesign-
19 ated by subparagraph (A);

20 (E) by redesignating paragraph (11), as
21 redesignated by subparagraph (A), as para-
22 graph (10); and

23 (F) by striking the last sentence;

24 (3) in subsection (g)—

25 (A) in paragraph (1)(A)—

1 (i) by striking clause (i); and
2 (ii) by redesignating clauses (ii) and
3 (iii) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;
4 and

5 (B) in paragraph (7)(C)—

6 (i) in clause (i), by striking “2003”
7 and inserting “2008”; and

8 (ii) in clause (ii)—

9 (I) by striking “Education and
10 the Workforce” and inserting “Edu-
11 cation and Labor”; and

12 (II) by striking “Labor and
13 Human Resources” and inserting
14 “Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
15 sions”; and

16 (4) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(h) REVIEW OF ASSESSMENTS.—

19 “(1) APPLICATION OF STUDY.—When the study
20 on Developmental Outcomes and Assessments for
21 Young Children by the National Academy of
22 Sciences is made available to the Secretary, the Sec-
23 retary shall—

24 “(A) incorporate the results of the study,
25 as appropriate and in accordance with para-

1 graphs (2) and (3), into each assessment used
2 in the Head Start programs; and

3 “(B) use the results of the study to de-
4 velop, inform, and revise the standards and
5 measures described in section 641A.

6 “(2) DEVELOPMENT AND REFINEMENT.—In de-
7 veloping and refining any assessment used in the
8 Head Start programs, the Secretary shall—

9 “(A) receive recommendations from the
10 Panel on Developmental Outcomes and Assess-
11 ments for Young Children of the National
12 Academy of Sciences; and

13 “(B) with respect to the development or
14 refinement of such assessment, ensure—

15 “(i) consistency with relevant, nation-
16 ally recognized professional and technical
17 standards;

18 “(ii) validity and reliability for all
19 purposes for which assessments under this
20 subchapter are designed and used;

21 “(iii) developmental and linguistic ap-
22 propriateness of such assessments for chil-
23 dren assessed, including children who are
24 limited English proficient; and

1 “(iv) that the results can be used to
2 improve the quality of, accountability of,
3 and training and technical assistance in,
4 Head Start programs.

5 “(3) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
6 retary, in carrying out the process described under
7 paragraph (2), shall ensure that—

8 “(A) staff administering any assessments
9 under this subchapter have received appropriate
10 training to administer such assessments;

11 “(B) appropriate accommodations for chil-
12 dren with disabilities and children who are lim-
13 ited English proficient are made;

14 “(C) the English and Spanish (and any
15 other language, as appropriate) forms of such
16 assessments are valid and reliable; and

17 “(D) such assessments are not used to ex-
18 clude children from Head Start programs.

19 “(4) SUSPENDED IMPLEMENTATION OF NA-
20 TIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM.—The Secretary shall—

21 “(A) suspend implementation and termi-
22 nate further development and use of the Na-
23 tional Reporting System; and

1 “(B) incorporate, as appropriate, rec-
2 ommendations under paragraph (2)(A) into any
3 assessment used in the Head Start programs.

4 “(i) SPECIAL RULE.—The use of assessment items
5 and data on any assessment authorized under this sub-
6 chapter by an agent or agents of the Federal Government
7 to rank, compare, or otherwise evaluate individual children
8 or teachers, or to provide rewards or sanctions for indi-
9 vidual children or teachers is prohibited. The Secretary
10 shall not use the results of a single assessment as the sole
11 method for assessing program effectiveness or making
12 grantee funding determinations at the national, regional,
13 or local level.

14 “(j) SERVICES TO LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT
15 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.—

16 “(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a
17 study on the status of limited English proficient
18 children and their families in Head Start or Early
19 Head Start programs.

20 “(2) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare
21 and submit to Congress, not later than September
22 2011, a report containing the results of the study,
23 including information on—

24 “(A) the demographics of limited English
25 proficient children from birth through age 5, in-

1 including the number of such children receiving
2 Head Start or Early Head Start services and
3 the geographic distribution of children described
4 in this subparagraph;

5 “(B) the nature of Head Start or Early
6 Head Start services provided to limited English
7 proficient children and their families, including
8 the types, content, duration, intensity, and costs
9 of family services, language assistance, and
10 educational services;

11 “(C) procedures in Head Start programs
12 for the assessment of language needs and the
13 transition of limited English proficient children
14 to kindergarten, including the extent to which
15 Head Start programs meet the requirements of
16 section 642A for limited English proficient chil-
17 dren;

18 “(D) the qualifications of and training pro-
19 vided to Head Start and Early Head Start
20 teachers serving limited English proficient chil-
21 dren and their families;

22 “(E) the rate of progress made by limited
23 English proficient children and their families in
24 Head Start programs and Early Head Start
25 programs, including—

1 “(i) the rate of progress of the limited
2 English proficient children toward meeting
3 the additional educational standards de-
4 scribed in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) while
5 enrolled in Head Start programs, meas-
6 ured between 1990 and 2006;

7 “(ii) the correlation between such
8 progress and the type of instruction and
9 educational program provided to the lim-
10 ited English proficient children; and

11 “(iii) the correlation between such
12 progress and the health and family services
13 provided by Head Start programs to lim-
14 ited English proficient children and their
15 families; and

16 “(F) the extent to which Head Start pro-
17 grams make use of funds under section
18 640(a)(3) to improve the quality of Head Start
19 services provided to limited English proficient
20 children and their families.”.

21 **SEC. 21. REPORTS.**

22 Section 650 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9846)
23 is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph

2 (1)—

3 (i) by striking “Education and the
4 Workforce” and inserting “Education and
5 Labor”;

6 (ii) by striking “Labor and Human
7 Resources” and inserting “Health, Edu-
8 cation, Labor, and Pensions”; and

9 (iii) by striking “(including disabled
10 and non-English language background chil-
11 dren)” and inserting “(including children
12 with disabilities, limited English proficient
13 children, and children participating in In-
14 dian Head Start programs and migrant
15 and seasonal Head Start programs)”;

16 (B) in paragraph (8), by inserting “home-
17 lessness, children in foster care,” after “ethnic
18 background,”; and

19 (C) in the flush matter at the end—

20 (i) by striking “Education and the
21 Workforce” and inserting “Education and
22 Labor”; and

23 (ii) by striking “Labor and Human
24 Resources” and inserting “Health, Edu-
25 cation, Labor, and Pensions”; and

1 (2) in subsection (b)—

2 (A) by striking “Education and the Work-
3 force” and inserting “Education and Labor”;
4 and

5 (B) by striking “Labor and Human Re-
6 sources” and inserting “Health, Education,
7 Labor, and Pensions”.

8 **SEC. 22. COMPARABILITY OF WAGES.**

9 Section 653 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9848)
10 is amended—

11 (1) by striking “The Secretary shall take” and
12 inserting “(a) The Secretary shall take”; and

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

14 “(b) No Federal funds shall be used to pay the com-
15 pensation of an individual employed by a Head Start agen-
16 cy in carrying out programs under this subchapter, either
17 as direct or indirect costs or any proration of such costs,
18 in an amount in excess of an amount based on the rate
19 payable for level II of the Executive Schedule under sec-
20 tion 5313 of title 5, United States Code.”.

21 **SEC. 23. LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN UNLAW-
22 FUL ACTIVITIES.**

23 Section 655 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9850)
24 is amended by inserting “or in” after “assigned by”.

1 **SEC. 24. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

2 Section 656 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9851)
3 is amended—

4 (1) by striking all that precedes “chapter 15”
5 and inserting the following:

6 **“SEC. 656. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

7 “(a) STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY.—For purposes of”;
8 and

9 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
10 following:

11 “(b) RESTRICTIONS.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A program assisted under
13 this subchapter, and any individual employed by, or
14 assigned to, a program assisted under this sub-
15 chapter (during the hours in which such individual
16 is working on behalf of such program), shall not en-
17 gage in—

18 “(A) any partisan or nonpartisan political
19 activity or any other political activity associated
20 with a candidate, or contending faction or
21 group, in an election for public or party office;
22 or

23 “(B) any activity to provide voters or pro-
24 spective voters with transportation to the polls
25 or similar assistance in connection with any
26 such election.

1 “(2) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The Sec-
2 retary, after consultation with the Director of the
3 Office of Personnel Management, may issue rules
4 and regulations to provide for the enforcement of
5 this section, which may include provisions for sum-
6 mary suspension of assistance or other action nec-
7 essary to permit enforcement on an emergency
8 basis.”.

9 **SEC. 25. PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENT FOR HEALTH**
10 **SERVICES.**

11 The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) is
12 amended by adding at the end the following new section:

13 **“SEC. 657A. PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENT FOR NON-**
14 **EMERGENCY INTRUSIVE PHYSICAL EXAMINA-**
15 **TIONS.**

16 “(a) DEFINITION.—The term ‘nonemergency intru-
17 sive physical examination’ means, with respect to a child,
18 a physical examination that—

19 “(1) is not immediately necessary to protect the
20 health or safety of the child or the health or safety
21 of another individual; and

22 “(2) requires incision or is otherwise invasive,
23 or involves exposure of private body parts.

24 “(b) REQUIREMENT.—A Head Start agency shall ob-
25 tain written parental consent before administration of, or

1 referral for, any health care service provided or arranged
2 to be provided, including any nonemergency intrusive
3 physical examination of a child in connection with partici-
4 pation in a program under this subchapter.

5 “(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
6 tion shall be construed to prohibit agencies from using es-
7 tablished methods, for handling cases of suspected or
8 known child abuse and neglect, that are in compliance
9 with applicable Federal, State, or tribal law.”.