

Calendar No. 413

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 1940****[Report No. 108-208]**

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 24, 2003

Mr. GREGG, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, reported the following original bill; which was read twice and placed on the calendar

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 Improve-
5 ments for School Readiness Act”.

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

7 Section 636 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831)
8 is amended by inserting “educational instruction in

1 prereading skills, premathematics skills, and language and
2 through” after “low-income children through”.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

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

6 (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “(including a
7 community-based organization)” after “nonprofit”;

8 (2) in paragraph (17), by striking “Mariana Is-
9 lands,” and all that follows and inserting “Mariana
10 Islands.”; and

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

12 “(18) The term ‘homeless child’ means a child
13 described in section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento
14 Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)).

15 “(19) The term ‘limited English proficient’,
16 used with respect to a child, means a child—

17 “(A) who is enrolled or preparing to enroll
18 in a Head Start program, Early Head Start
19 program, or other early care and education pro-
20 gram;

21 “(B)(i) who was not born in the United
22 States or whose native language is a language
23 other than English;

1 “(ii)(I) who is an Indian (including an
2 Alaskan Native) or a native resident of a
3 United States territory; and

4 “(II) who comes from an environment
5 where a language other than English has had
6 a significant impact on the child’s level of
7 English language proficiency; or

8 “(iii) who is migratory, whose native lan-
9 guage is a language other than English, and
10 who comes from an environment where a lan-
11 guage other than English is dominant; and

12 “(C) whose difficulty in speaking or under-
13 standing the English language may be sufficient
14 to deny such child—

15 “(i) the ability to successfully achieve
16 in a classroom in which the language of in-
17 struction is English; or

18 “(ii) the opportunity to participate
19 fully in society.”.

20 **SEC. 4. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HEAD START PRO-**
21 **GRAMS.**

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

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

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

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

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-
6 propriated for carrying out the provisions of this sub-
7 chapter \$7,215,000,000 for fiscal year 2005,
8 \$7,615,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, \$8,015,000,000 for
9 fiscal year 2007, and such sums as may be necessary for
10 each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

11 “(b) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—From the amount ap-
12 propriated under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make
13 available to carry out research, demonstration, and evalua-
14 tion activities, including longitudinal studies under section
15 649, not more than \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2004, and
16 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
17 2005 through 2009, of which not more than \$7,000,000
18 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be avail-
19 able to carry out impact studies under section 649(g).”.

20 **SEC. 6. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.**

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

23 (1) in paragraph (2)—

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

1 “(A) Indian Head Start programs, services for
2 children with disabilities, and migrant and seasonal
3 Head Start programs, except that—

4 “(i) subject to the availability of appropria-
5 tions, the Secretary shall reserve for each fiscal
6 year for use by Indian Head Start and migrant
7 and seasonal Head Start programs (referred to
8 in this subparagraph as ‘covered programs’), on
9 a nationwide basis, a sum that is the total of
10 not less than 4 percent of the amount appro-
11 priated under section 639 for that fiscal year
12 (for Indian Head Start programs), and not less
13 than 5 percent of that appropriated amount
14 (for migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
15 grams), except that—

16 “(I) if reserving the specified percent-
17 ages for Indian Head Start programs and
18 migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
19 grams would reduce the number of chil-
20 dren served by Head Start programs, rel-
21 ative to the number of children served on
22 the date of enactment of the Head Start
23 Improvements for School Readiness Act,
24 taking into consideration an appropriate
25 adjustment for inflation, the Secretary

1 shall reserve percentages that approach, as
2 closely as practicable, the specified percent-
3 ages and that do not cause such a reduc-
4 tion; and

5 “(II) notwithstanding any other provi-
6 sion of this subparagraph, the Secretary
7 shall reserve for each fiscal year for use by
8 Indian Head Start programs and by mi-
9 grant and seasonal Head Start programs,
10 on a nationwide basis, not less than the
11 amount that was obligated for use by In-
12 dian Head Start programs and by migrant
13 and seasonal Head Start programs for the
14 previous fiscal year;

15 “(ii) after ensuring that each grant recipi-
16 ent for a covered program has received an
17 amount sufficient to enable the grant recipient
18 to serve the same number of children in Head
19 Start programs as were served by such grant
20 recipient on the date of enactment of the Head
21 Start Improvements for School Readiness Act,
22 taking into consideration an appropriate adjust-
23 ment for inflation, and after allotting the funds
24 reserved under paragraph (3)(A) as specified in
25 paragraph (3)(D), the Secretary shall distribute

1 the remaining funds available under this sub-
2 paragraph for covered programs, by—

3 “(I) distributing 65 percent of
4 the remainder by giving priority to
5 grant recipients in the States serving
6 the smallest percentages of eligible
7 children (as determined by the Sec-
8 retary); and

9 “(II) distributing 35 percent of
10 the remainder on a competitive
11 basis;” and

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

14 “(C) training and technical assistance activities
15 that are sufficient to meet the needs associated with
16 program expansion and to foster program and man-
17 agement improvement activities as described in sec-
18 tion 648, in an amount for each fiscal year that is
19 equal to 2 percent of the amount appropriated under
20 section 639 for such fiscal year, of which—

21 “(i) 50 percent shall be made available to
22 Head Start agencies to comply with the stand-
23 ards described in section 641A(a)(1) and with
24 the transportation safety regulations issued
25 pursuant to subsection (i) and section

1 645A(b)(11), and for the uses described in
2 clauses (iii), (iv), and (vii) of paragraph (3)(B);

3 “(ii) 50 percent shall be made available to
4 the Secretary to support a regional or State
5 system of early childhood education training
6 and technical assistance and to assist local pro-
7 grams (including Indian Head Start programs
8 and migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
9 grams) in meeting the standards described in
10 section 641A(a)(1); and

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

15 (2) in paragraph (3)—

16 (A) in subparagraph (A)(i)(I)—

17 (i) by striking “60 percent of such ex-
18 cess amount for fiscal year 1999” and all
19 that follows through “2002, and”; and

20 (ii) by inserting before the semicolon
21 the following: “and 50 percent of such ex-
22 cess amount for each of fiscal years 2005
23 through 2009”;

24 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

1 (i) in clause (i), by striking “perform-
2 ance standards” and all that follows and
3 inserting “standards and measures pursu-
4 ant to section 641A.”;

5 (ii) by striking clause (ii) and insert-
6 ing the following:

7 “(ii) Ensuring that such programs have ade-
8 quate numbers of qualified staff, and that such staff
9 is furnished adequate training, including training to
10 promote the development of language skills,
11 premathematics skills, and prereading in young chil-
12 dren and in working with limited English proficient
13 children, children referred by child welfare services,
14 and children with disabilities, when appropriate.”;

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

17 “(iii) Developing and financing the salary scales
18 and benefits standards under section 644(a) and
19 section 653, in order to ensure that salary levels and
20 benefits are adequate to attract and retain qualified
21 staff for such programs.”;

22 (iv) by striking clause (iv) and insert-
23 ing the following:

24 “(iv) Using salary increases to—

1 “(I) assist with the implementation of
2 quality programs and improve staff qualifica-
3 tions;

4 “(II) ensure that staff can promote the
5 language skills and literacy growth of children
6 and can provide children with a variety of skills
7 that have been identified, through scientifically
8 based early reading research, as predictive of
9 later reading achievement; and

10 “(III) encourage the staff to continually
11 improve their skills and expertise by informing
12 the staff of the availability of Federal and State
13 incentive and loan forgiveness programs for
14 professional development.”;

15 (v) in clause (v), by inserting “, in-
16 cluding collaborations to increase program
17 participation by underserved populations of
18 eligible children” before the period; and

19 (vi) by striking clauses (vii) and (viii)
20 and inserting the following:

21 “(vii) Providing assistance to complete postsec-
22 ondary coursework including scholarships or other fi-
23 nancial incentives, such as differential and merit
24 pay, to enable Head Start teachers to improve com-
25 petencies and the resulting child outcomes.

1 “(viii) Promoting the regular attendance and
2 stability of all Head Start children with particular
3 attention to highly mobile children, including chil-
4 dren from migrant and seasonal farmworking fami-
5 lies (where appropriate), homeless children, and chil-
6 dren in foster care.

7 “(ix) Making such other improvements in the
8 quality of such programs as the Secretary may des-
9 ignate.”;

10 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

11 (i) in clause (i)(I), by striking the last
12 sentence and inserting “Salary increases,
13 in excess of cost-of-living allowances, pro-
14 vided with such funds shall be subject to
15 the specific standards governing salaries
16 and salary increases established pursuant
17 to section 644(a).”;

18 (ii) in clause (ii)—

19 (I) in the matter preceding sub-
20 clause (I), by striking “education per-
21 formance” and inserting “additional
22 educational”;

23 (II) in subclause (I), by inserting
24 “, prereading,” after “language”;

1 (III) by striking subclause (II)
2 and inserting the following:

3 “(II) to help limited English proficient
4 children attain the knowledge, skills, and devel-
5 opment specified in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii)
6 and to promote the acquisition of the English
7 language by such children and families;” and

8 (IV) by striking subclause (IV)
9 and inserting the following:

10 “(IV) to provide education and training
11 necessary to improve the qualifications of Head
12 Start staff, particularly assistance to enable
13 more instructors to be fully competent and to
14 meet the degree requirements under section
15 648A(a)(2)(A), and to support staff training,
16 child counseling, and other services necessary to
17 address the challenges of children participating
18 in Head Start programs, including children
19 from immigrant, refugee, and asylee families,
20 children from families in crisis, children who ex-
21 perience chronic violence in their communities,
22 and children who experience substance abuse in
23 their families.”;

24 (iii) in clause (iii), by inserting “, edu-
25 cational staff who have the qualifications

1 described in section 648A(a),” after
2 “ratio”;

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

6 (v) by redesignating clause (vi) as
7 clause (viii); and

8 (vi) by inserting after clause (v) the
9 following:

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

13 “(vii) To conduct outreach to migrant and sea-
14 sonal farmworking families and families with limited
15 English proficient children.”;

16 (3) in paragraph (4)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
18 “1998” and inserting “2003”; and

19 (B) by striking subparagraph (B) and in-
20 serting the following:

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

24 “(i) Each State shall receive an amount
25 sufficient to enable such State to serve the

1 same number of children in Head Start pro-
2 grams as were served by such State on the date
3 of enactment of the Head Start Improvements
4 for School Readiness Act, taking into consider-
5 ation an appropriate adjustment for inflation.

6 “(ii) After ensuring that each State has re-
7 ceived the amount described in clause (i) and
8 after allotting the funds reserved under para-
9 graph (3)(A) as specified in paragraph (3)(D),
10 the Secretary shall distribute the remaining bal-
11 ance, by—

12 “(I) distributing 65 percent of the
13 balance by giving priority to States serving
14 the smallest percentages of eligible children
15 (as determined by the Secretary); and

16 “(II) distributing 35 percent of the
17 balance on a competitive basis.”;

18 (4) in paragraph (5)—

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

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

24 “(B)(i) From the reserved sums, the Secretary shall
25 award a collaboration grant to each State to facilitate col-

1 laboration between Head Start agencies and entities (in-
2 cluding the State) that carry out other activities designed
3 to benefit low-income families and children from birth to
4 school entry.

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

6 “(I) encourage Head Start agencies to collabo-
7 rate with entities involved in State and local plan-
8 ning processes to better meet the needs of low-in-
9 come families and children from birth to school
10 entry;

11 “(II) encourage Head Start agencies to coordi-
12 nate activities with the State agency responsible for
13 administering the State program carried out under
14 the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of
15 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) and entities providing
16 resources and referral services in the State to make
17 full-working-day and full calendar year services
18 available to children;

19 “(III) promote alignment of Head Start serv-
20 ices with State early learning and school readiness
21 goals and standards;

22 “(IV) promote better linkages between Head
23 Start agencies and other child and family agencies,
24 including agencies that provide health, mental

1 health, or family services, or other child or family
2 supportive services; and

3 “(V) carry out the activities of the State Direc-
4 tor of Head Start Collaboration authorized in sub-
5 paragraph (D).

6 “(C) In order to improve coordination and delivery
7 of early education services to children in the State, a State
8 that receives a grant under subparagraph (B) shall—

9 “(i) appoint an individual to serve as the State
10 Director of Head Start Collaboration;

11 “(ii) ensure that the State Director of Head
12 Start Collaboration holds a position with sufficient
13 authority and access to ensure that the collaboration
14 described in subparagraph (B) is effective and in-
15 volves a range of State agencies; and

16 “(iii) involve the State Head Start Association
17 in the selection of the Director and involve the Asso-
18 ciation in determinations relating to the ongoing di-
19 rection of the collaboration office.

20 “(D) The State Director of Head Start Collaboration,
21 after consultation with the State Advisory Council de-
22 scribed in subparagraph (E), shall—

23 “(i) not later than 1 year after the date of en-
24 actment of the Head Start Improvements for School
25 Readiness Act, conduct an assessment that—

1 “(I) addresses the needs of Head Start
2 agencies in the State with respect to collabo-
3 rating, coordinating services, and implementing
4 State early learning and school readiness goals
5 and standards to better serve children enrolled
6 in Head Start programs in the State;

7 “(II) shall be updated on an annual basis;
8 and

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

11 “(ii) assess the availability of high quality pre-
12 kindergarten services for low-income children in the
13 State;

14 “(iii) develop a strategic plan that is based on
15 the assessment described in clause (i) that will—

16 “(I) enhance collaboration and coordina-
17 tion of Head Start services with other entities
18 providing early childhood programs and services
19 (such as child care and services offered by mu-
20 seums), health care, mental health care, wel-
21 fare, child protective services, education and
22 community service activities, family literacy
23 services, reading readiness programs (including
24 such programs offered by public and school li-
25 braries), services relating to children with dis-

1 abilities (including coordination of services with
2 those State officials who are responsible for ad-
3 ministering section 619 and part C of the Indi-
4 viduals with Disabilities Education Act (20
5 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.), and other early
6 childhood programs and services for limited
7 English proficient and homeless children (in-
8 cluding coordination of services with the Office
9 of Coordinator for Education of Homeless Chil-
10 dren and Youths under section 722(d)(3) of the
11 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
12 U.S.C. 11432(d)(3)));

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

17 “(III) assist Head Start agencies to align
18 services with State early learning and school
19 readiness goals and standards and to facilitate
20 collaborative efforts to develop local school
21 readiness standards; and

22 “(IV) enable agencies in the State to bet-
23 ter coordinate professional development oppor-
24 tunities for Head Start staff, such as by—

1 “(aa) assisting 2- and 4-year public
2 and private institutions of higher education
3 to develop articulation agreements;

4 “(bb) awarding grants to institutions
5 of higher education to develop model early
6 childhood education programs, including
7 practica or internships for students to
8 spend time in a Head Start or prekindergarten
9 program;

10 “(cc) working with local Head Start
11 agencies to meet the degree requirements
12 described in section 648A(a)(2)(A), including
13 providing distance learning opportunities
14 for Head Start staff, where needed to
15 make higher education more accessible to
16 Head Start staff; and

17 “(dd) enabling the State Head Start
18 agencies to better coordinate outreach to
19 eligible families;

20 “(iv) promote partnerships between Head Start
21 agencies, State governments, and the private sector
22 to help ensure that preschool children from low-income
23 families are receiving comprehensive services to
24 prepare the children to enter school ready to learn;

1 “(v) consult with the chief State school officer,
2 local educational agencies, and providers of early
3 childhood education and care to conduct unified
4 planning regarding early care and education services
5 at both the State and local levels, including under-
6 taking collaborative efforts to develop and make im-
7 provements in school readiness standards;

8 “(vi) promote partnerships (such as the part-
9 nerships involved with the Free to Grow initiative)
10 between Head Start agencies, schools, law enforce-
11 ment, and substance abuse and mental health treat-
12 ment agencies to strengthen family and community
13 environments and to reduce the impact on child de-
14 velopment of substance abuse, child abuse, domestic
15 violence, and other high risk behaviors that com-
16 promise healthy development;

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

1 “(viii) identify other resources and organiza-
2 tions (both public and private) for the provision of
3 in-kind services to Head Start agencies in the State.

4 “(E)(i) The Governor of the State shall designate or
5 establish a council to serve as the State advisory council
6 on collaboration on early care and education activities for
7 children from birth to school entry (in this subchapter re-
8 ferred to as the ‘State Advisory Council’).

9 “(ii) The Governor may designate an existing entity
10 to serve as the State Advisory Council, if the entity in-
11 cludes representatives described in subclauses (I) through
12 (XXIV) of clause (iii).

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

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

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

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

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

1 “(V) a representative (or representatives) of the
2 State agency (or agencies) responsible for health or
3 mental health care;

4 “(VI) a representative of the State agency re-
5 sponsible for teacher professional standards, certifi-
6 cation, and licensing;

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

9 “(VIII) early childhood education professionals;

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 part C of the Individ-
21 uals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
22 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 migrant and sea-
14 sonal Head Start programs and Indian Head Start
15 programs (where appropriate);

16 “(XX) parents;

17 “(XXI) religious and business leaders;

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

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

1 “(XXIV) a representative of other entities de-
2 termined to be relevant by the chief executive officer
3 of the State.

4 “(iv)(I) The State Advisory Council shall be respon-
5 sible for, in addition to responsibilities assigned to the
6 council by the chief executive officer of the State—

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

10 “(bb) identifying barriers to, and opportunities
11 for, collaboration and coordination between entities
12 carrying out Federal and State child development,
13 child care, and early childhood education programs;

14 “(cc) developing recommendations regarding
15 means of establishing a unified data collection sys-
16 tem for early care and education programs through-
17 out the State;

18 “(dd) developing a statewide professional devel-
19 opment and career ladder plan for early care and
20 education in the State; and

21 “(ee) reviewing and approving the strategic
22 plan, regarding collaborating and coordinating serv-
23 ices to better serve children enrolled in Head Start
24 programs, developed by the State Director of Head
25 Start Collaboration under subparagraph (D)(iii).

1 “(II) The State Advisory Council shall hold public
2 hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment
3 on the needs assessment and recommendations described
4 in subclause (I). The State Advisory Council shall submit
5 a statewide strategic report containing the needs assess-
6 ment and recommendations described in subclause (I) to
7 the State Director of Head Start Collaboration and the
8 chief executive officer of the State.

9 “(III) After submission of a statewide strategic re-
10 port under subclause (II), the State Advisory Council shall
11 meet periodically to review any implementation of the rec-
12 ommendations in such report and any changes in State
13 and local needs.”; and

14 (5) in paragraph (6)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “7.5
16 percent” and all that follows and inserting “10
17 percent for fiscal year 2004, 11 percent for fis-
18 cal year 2005, 13 percent for fiscal year 2006,
19 15 percent for fiscal year 2007, 17 percent for
20 fiscal year 2008, and 18 percent for fiscal year
21 2009, of the amount appropriated pursuant to
22 section 639(a).”;

23 (B) by striking subparagraph (B);

24 (C) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking
25 “required to be”; and

1 (D) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
2 subparagraph (B).

3 (b) SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS.—Section 640(f) of
4 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(f)) is amended by
5 striking “needs.” and inserting “needs, including—

6 “(1) models that leverage the capacity and ca-
7 pabilities of the delivery system of early childhood
8 education and child care; and

9 “(2) procedures to provide for the conversion of
10 part-day programs to full-day programs or part-day
11 slots to full-day slots.”.

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

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

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

1 serving children with disabilities and homeless chil-
2 dren including the local educational agency liaison
3 designated under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the
4 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
5 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii));”;

6 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “other
7 local” and inserting “the State and local”;

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

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

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

18 (d) REGULATIONS.—Section 640(i) of the Head Start
19 Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(i)) is amended by inserting “and re-
20 quirements to ensure the appropriate supervision and
21 background checks of individuals with whom the agencies
22 contract to transport those children” before the period.

23 (e) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL HEAD START PRO-
24 GRAMS.—Section 640(l) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
25 9835(l)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

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

5 “(B) The consultations shall be for the purpose of
6 better meeting the needs of American Indian and Alaska
7 Native children and families pertinent to subsections (a),
8 (b), and (c) of section 641, taking into consideration fund-
9 ing allocations, distribution formulas, and other issues af-
10 fecting the delivery of Head Start services within tribal
11 communities.

12 “(C) The Secretary shall publish a notification of the
13 consultations in the Federal Register prior to conducting
14 the consultations.

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

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

21 “(m) ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS CHILDREN.—The
22 Secretary shall issue regulations to remove barriers to the
23 enrollment and participation of eligible homeless children
24 in Head Start programs. Such regulations shall require
25 Head Start agencies to—

1 “(1) implement policies and procedures to en-
2 sure that eligible homeless children are identified
3 and receive appropriate priority for enrollment;

4 “(2) allow homeless children to apply to, enroll
5 in, and attend Head Start programs while required
6 documents, such as proof of residency, proof of im-
7 munization, and other medical records, birth certifi-
8 cates, and other documents, are obtained within a
9 reasonable timeframe (consistent with State law);
10 and

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

15 “(n) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sub-
16 chapter shall be construed to require a State to establish
17 a program of early education for children in the State,
18 to require any child to participate in a program of early
19 education in order to attend preschool, or to participate
20 in any initial screening prior to participation in such pro-
21 gram, except as provided under section 612(a)(3) of the
22 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
23 1412(a)(3)) and consistent with section 614(a)(1)(C) of
24 such Act (20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(1)(C)).

1 “(o) MATERIALS.—All curricula funded under this
 2 subchapter shall be scientifically based and age appro-
 3 priate. Parents shall have the opportunity to examine any
 4 such curricula or instructional materials funded under this
 5 subchapter.”.

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

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

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

10 “(a) DESIGNATION.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized
 12 to designate as a Head Start agency any local public
 13 or private nonprofit or for-profit agency, within a
 14 community, including a community-based organiza-
 15 tion that—

16 “(A) has power and authority to carry out
 17 the purpose of this subchapter and perform the
 18 functions set forth in section 642 within a com-
 19 munity; and

20 “(B) is determined to be capable of plan-
 21 ning, conducting, administering, and evaluating,
 22 either directly or by other arrangements, a
 23 Head Start program.

24 “(2) REQUIRED GOALS FOR DESIGNATION.—In
 25 order to be designated as a Head Start agency, an

1 entity described in paragraph (1) shall establish pro-
2 gram goals for improving the school readiness of
3 children participating in a program under this sub-
4 chapter, including goals for meeting the performance
5 standards and additional educational standards de-
6 scribed in section 641A and shall establish results-
7 based school readiness goals that are aligned with
8 requirements and expectations for local public
9 schools.

10 “(3) ELIGIBILITY FOR SUBSEQUENT GRANTS.—

11 In order to receive a grant under this subchapter
12 subsequent to the initial grant provided following the
13 date of enactment of the Head Start Improvements
14 for School Readiness Act, an entity described in
15 paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the entity has
16 met or is making progress toward meeting the goals
17 described in paragraph (2).

18 “(b) COMMUNITIES.—For purposes of this sub-
19 chapter, a community may be a city, county, or multicounty
20 or multicounty unit within a State, an Indian reservation
21 (including Indians in any off-reservation area designated
22 by an appropriate tribal government in consultation with
23 the Secretary), or a neighborhood or other area (irrespec-
24 tive of boundaries or political subdivisions) that provides
25 a suitable organizational base and possesses the com-

1 monality of interest needed to operate a Head Start pro-
2 gram.

3 “(c) PRIORITY IN DESIGNATION.—In administering
4 the provisions of this section, the Secretary shall, in con-
5 sultation with the chief executive officer of the State in-
6 volved, give priority in the designation (including redesi-
7 nation) of Head Start agencies to any high-performing
8 Head Start agency or delegate agency that—

9 “(1) is receiving assistance under this sub-
10 chapter;

11 “(2) meets or exceeds program and financial
12 management requirements, standards described in
13 section 641A(a)(1), or other requirements estab-
14 lished by the Secretary;

15 “(3) has no unresolved programmatic defi-
16 ciencies and has not had findings of deficiencies dur-
17 ing the last triennial review under section 641A(c);
18 and

19 “(4) can demonstrate, through agreements such
20 as memoranda of understanding, active collaboration
21 with the State in the provision of services for chil-
22 dren (such as the provision of extended day services,
23 education, professional development and training for
24 staff, and other types of cooperative endeavors).

1 “(d) DESIGNATION WHEN ENTITY HAS PRIORITY.—
2 If no entity in a community is entitled to the priority spec-
3 ified in subsection (c), the Secretary shall, after con-
4 ducting an open competition, designate a Head Start
5 agency from among qualified applicants in such commu-
6 nity.

7 “(e) EFFECTIVENESS.—In selecting from among
8 qualified applicants for designation as a Head Start agen-
9 cy, the Secretary shall consider the effectiveness of each
10 such applicant to provide Head Start services, based on—

11 “(1) any past performance of such applicant in
12 providing services comparable to Head Start serv-
13 ices, including how effectively such applicant pro-
14 vided such comparable services;

15 “(2) the plan of such applicant to provide com-
16 prehensive health, educational, nutritional, social,
17 and other services needed to aid participating chil-
18 dren in attaining their full potential, and to prepare
19 children to succeed in school;

20 “(3) the capacity of such applicant to serve eli-
21 gible children with scientifically based programs that
22 promote school readiness of children participating in
23 the program;

24 “(4) the plan of such applicant to meet stand-
25 ards set forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular

1 attention to the standards set forth in subpara-
2 graphs (A) and (B) of such section;

3 “(5) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
4 the Head Start program the applicant proposes to
5 carry out with other preschool programs, includ-
6 ing—

7 “(A) the Early Reading First and Even
8 Start programs under subparts 2 and 3 of part
9 B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
10 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6371 et seq.,
11 6381 et seq.);

12 “(B) programs under section 619 and part
13 C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education
14 Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.);

15 “(C) State prekindergarten programs;

16 “(D) child care programs;

17 “(E) the educational programs that the
18 children in the Head Start program involved
19 will enter at the age of compulsory school at-
20 tendance; and

21 “(F) reading readiness programs such as
22 those conducted by public and school libraries;

23 “(6) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
24 the Head Start program that the applicant proposes
25 to carry out with public and private entities who are

1 willing to commit resources to assist the Head Start
2 program in meeting its program needs;

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

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

9 “(i) taking children to the library for
10 a story hour;

11 “(ii) promoting the use of library
12 cards;

13 “(iii) developing a lending library or
14 using a mobile library van; and

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

17 “(B) assist in literacy training for Head
18 Start teachers; and

19 “(C) support parents and other caregivers
20 in literacy efforts;

21 “(8) the plan of such applicant—

22 “(A) to seek the involvement of parents of
23 participating children in activities (at home and
24 in the center involved where practicable) de-

1 signed to help such parents become full part-
2 ners in the education of their children;

3 “(B) to afford such parents the oppor-
4 tunity to participate in the development and
5 overall conduct of the program at the local
6 level;

7 “(C) to offer (directly or through referral
8 to local entities, such as entities carrying out
9 Even Start programs under subpart 3 of part
10 B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
11 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et
12 seq.), public and school libraries, and entities
13 carrying out family support programs) to such
14 parents—

15 “(i) family literacy services; and

16 “(ii) parenting skills training;

17 “(D) to offer to parents of participating
18 children substance abuse counseling (either di-
19 rectly or through referral to local entities), in-
20 cluding information on the effect of drug expo-
21 sure on infants and fetal alcohol syndrome;

22 “(E) at the option of such applicant, to
23 offer (directly or through referral to local enti-
24 ties) to such parents—

1 “(i) training in basic child develop-
2 ment (including cognitive development);

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

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

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

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

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

21 “(G) to extend outreach to fathers, in ap-
22 propriate cases, in order to strengthen the role
23 of fathers in families, in the education of their
24 young children, and in the Head Start program,

1 by working directly with fathers and father fig-
2 ures through activities such as—

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 “(13) the plan of such applicant who chooses to
23 assist younger siblings of children who will partici-
24 pate in the Head Start program, to obtain health
25 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 and

5 “(15) the plan of such applicant to meet the
6 needs of homeless children and children in foster
7 care.”.

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

10 Section 641A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
11 9836a) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking
14 “642(d)” and inserting “642(c)”;

15 (B) in paragraph (1)(B)—

16 (i) in clause (i), by striking “edu-
17 cation performance standards” and insert-
18 ing “educational performance standards”;
19 and

20 (ii) by striking clause (ii) and insert-
21 ing the following:

22 “(ii) additional educational standards
23 based on the recommendations of the National
24 Academy of Sciences panel described in section
25 649(h) and other experts in the field, to ensure

1 that the curriculum involved addresses, and
2 that the children participating in the program
3 show appropriate progress toward developing
4 and applying, the recommended educational
5 outcomes, after the panel considers the appro-
6 priateness of additional educational standards
7 relating to—

8 “(I) language skills related to listen-
9 ing, understanding, speaking, and commu-
10 nicating, including—

11 “(aa) understanding and use of a
12 diverse vocabulary (including knowing
13 the names of colors) and knowledge of
14 how to use oral language to commu-
15 nicate for various purposes;

16 “(bb) narrative abilities used, for
17 example, to comprehend, tell, and re-
18 spond to a story, or to comprehend in-
19 structions;

20 “(cc) ability to detect and
21 produce sounds of the language the
22 child speaks or is learning; and

23 “(dd) clarity of pronunciation
24 and speaking in syntactically and
25 grammatically correct sentences;

1 “(II) prereading knowledge and skills,
2 including—

3 “(aa) alphabet knowledge includ-
4 ing knowing the letter names and as-
5 sociating letters with their shapes and
6 sounds in the language the child
7 speaks or is learning;

8 “(bb) phonological awareness and
9 processes that support reading, for ex-
10 ample, rhyming, recognizing speech
11 sounds and separate syllables in spo-
12 ken words, and putting speech sounds
13 together to make words;

14 “(cc) knowledge, interest in, and
15 appreciation of books, reading, and
16 writing (either alone or with others),
17 and knowledge that books have parts
18 such as the front, back, and title
19 page;

20 “(dd) early writing, including the
21 ability to write one’s own name and
22 other words and phrases; and

23 “(ee) print awareness and con-
24 cepts, including recognizing different
25 forms of print and understanding the

1 association between spoken and writ-
2 ten words;

3 “(III) premathematics knowledge and
4 skills, including—

5 “(aa) number recognition;

6 “(bb) use of early number con-
7 cepts and operations, including count-
8 ing, simple adding and subtracting,
9 and knowledge of quantitative rela-
10 tionships such as part versus whole
11 and comparison of numbers of objects;

12 “(cc) use of early space and loca-
13 tion concepts including recognizing
14 shapes, classification, striation, and
15 understanding directionality; and

16 “(dd) early pattern skills and
17 measurement, including recognizing
18 and extending simple patterns and
19 measuring length, weight, and time;

20 “(IV) scientific abilities, including—

21 “(aa) building awareness about
22 scientific skills and methods, such as
23 gathering, describing, and recording
24 information, making observations, and

1 making explanations and predictions;
2 and

3 “(bb) expanding scientific knowl-
4 edge of the environment, time, tem-
5 perature, and cause and effect rela-
6 tionships;

7 “(V) general cognitive abilities related
8 to academic achievement and child develop-
9 ment, including—

10 “(aa) reasoning, planning, and
11 problem solving skills;

12 “(bb) ability to engage, sustain
13 attention, and persist on challenging
14 tasks;

15 “(cc) intellectual curiosity, initia-
16 tive, and task engagement; and

17 “(dd) motivation to achieve and
18 master concepts and skills;

19 “(VI) social and emotional develop-
20 ment related to early learning and school
21 success, including developing—

22 “(aa) the ability to develop social
23 relationships, demonstrate cooperative
24 behaviors, and relate to teachers and
25 peers in positive and respectful ways;

1 “(bb) an understanding of the
2 consequences of actions, following
3 rules, and appropriately expressing
4 feelings;

5 “(cc) a sense of self, such as self-
6 awareness, independence, and con-
7 fidence;

8 “(dd) the ability to control nega-
9 tive behaviors with teachers and peers
10 that include impulsiveness, aggression,
11 and noncompliance; and

12 “(ee) knowledge of civic society
13 and surrounding communities;

14 “(VII) physical development, including
15 developing—

16 “(aa) fine motor skills, such as
17 strength, manual dexterity, and hand-
18 eye coordination; and

19 “(bb) gross motor skills, such as
20 balance and coordinated movements;
21 and

22 “(VIII) in the case of limited English
23 proficient children, progress toward acqui-
24 sition of the English language while mak-
25 ing meaningful progress in attaining the

1 knowledge, skills, abilities, and develop-
2 ment described in subclauses (I) through
3 (VII);”;

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

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

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

17 (D) in paragraph (2)—

18 (i) in subparagraph (B)—

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

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

1 and inserting “the date of enactment
2 of the Head Start Improvements for
3 School Readiness Act”;

4 (III) in clause (vi), by striking “;
5 and” and inserting a semicolon;

6 (IV) in clause (vii), by striking
7 “public schools” and inserting “the
8 schools that the children will be at-
9 tending”; and

10 (V) by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(viii) the unique challenges faced by
13 individual programs, including those pro-
14 grams that are seasonal or short term and
15 those programs that serve rural popu-
16 lations; and”;

17 (ii) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by strik-
18 ing “the date of enactment of the Coats
19 Human Services Reauthorization Act of
20 1998” and inserting “the date of enact-
21 ment of the Head Start Improvements for
22 School Readiness Act”; and

23 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(D) consult with Indian tribes, American
 2 Indian and Alaska Native experts in early child-
 3 hood development, linguists, and the National
 4 Indian Head Start Directors Association on the
 5 review and promulgation of program standards
 6 and measures (including standards and meas-
 7 ures for language acquisition and school readi-
 8 ness).”;

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

10 “(4) EVALUATIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
 11 FOR DELEGATE AGENCIES.—

12 “(A) PROCEDURES.—The Head Start
 13 agency shall establish procedures relating to its
 14 delegate agencies, including—

15 “(i) procedures for evaluating delegate
 16 agencies;

17 “(ii) procedures for defunding dele-
 18 gate agencies; and

19 “(iii) procedures for appealing a
 20 defunding decision relating to a delegate
 21 agency.

22 “(B) EVALUATIONS.—Each Head Start
 23 agency—

24 “(i) shall evaluate its delegate agen-
 25 cies using the procedures established pur-

1 suant to this section, including subpara-
2 graph (A); and

3 “(ii) shall inform the delegate agen-
4 cies of the deficiencies identified through
5 the evaluation that shall be corrected.

6 “(C) REMEDIES TO ENSURE CORRECTIVE
7 ACTIONS.—In the event that the Head Start
8 agency identifies a deficiency for a delegate
9 agency through the evaluation, the Head Start
10 agency may—

11 “(i) initiate procedures to terminate
12 the designation of the agency unless the
13 agency corrects the deficiency;

14 “(ii) conduct monthly monitoring vis-
15 its to such delegate agency until all defi-
16 ciencies are corrected or the Head Start
17 agency decides to defund such delegate
18 agency; and

19 “(iii) release funds to such delegate
20 agency only as reimbursements until all de-
21 ficiencies are corrected or the Head Start
22 agency decides to defund such delegate
23 agency.

24 “(D) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
25 in this paragraph shall be construed to impact

1 or obviate the responsibilities of the Secretary
2 with respect to Head Start agencies or delegate
3 agencies receiving funding under this sub-
4 chapter.”;

5 (2) in subsection (b)—

6 (A) in paragraph (2)—

7 (i) by striking the paragraph heading
8 and inserting the following:

9 “(2) CHARACTERISTICS AND USE OF MEAS-
10 URES.—”;

11 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
12 “, not later than July 1, 1999; and” and
13 inserting a semicolon;

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

16 (iv) by striking the flush matter fol-
17 lowing subparagraph (C); and

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

19 “(D) measure characteristics that are
20 strongly predictive (as determined on a sci-
21 entific basis) of a child’s school readiness and
22 later performance in school;

23 “(E) be appropriate for the population
24 served; and

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

4 The performance measures shall include the per-
5 formance standards and additional educational
6 standards described in subparagraphs (A) and (B)
7 of subsection (a)(1).”;

8 (B) in paragraph (3)—

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

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

13 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
14 lowing:

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

18 (C) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-
19 ing the following:

20 “(4) RESULTS-BASED OUTCOME MEASURES.—

21 Results-based outcome measures shall be designed
22 for the purpose of promoting the knowledge, skills,
23 abilities, and development, described in subsection
24 (a)(1)(B)(ii) of children participating in Head Start
25 programs that are strongly predictive (as determined

1 on a scientific basis) of a child’s school readiness
2 and later performance in school.”; and

3 (D) by striking paragraph (5) and insert-
4 ing the following:

5 “(5) ADDITIONAL LOCAL RESULTS-BASED EDU-
6 CATIONAL MEASURES AND GOALS.—Head Start
7 agencies may establish and implement additional
8 local results-based educational measures and goals.”;

9 (3) in subsection (c)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1)—

11 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
12 graph (A), by inserting “and Head Start
13 centers” after “Head Start programs”;

14 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
15 “such agency” and inserting “Head Start
16 center”;

17 (iii) by striking subparagraph (C) and
18 inserting the following:

19 “(C) Unannounced site inspections of
20 Head Start centers, as appropriate.”;

21 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph
22 (D) as subparagraph (E); and

23 (v) by inserting after subparagraph
24 (C) the following:

25 “(D) Followup reviews including—

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

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

12 “(2) CONDUCT OF REVIEWS.—The Secretary
13 shall ensure that reviews described in paragraph
14 (1)—

15 “(A) that incorporate a monitoring visit,
16 may incorporate the visit without prior notice of
17 the visit to the agency involved or with such
18 limited prior notice as is necessary to ensure
19 the participation of parents and key staff mem-
20 bers;

21 “(B) are conducted by review teams that
22 shall include individuals who are knowledgeable
23 about Head Start and other early childhood
24 education programs and, to the maximum ex-
25 tent practicable, the diverse (including linguistic

1 and cultural) needs of eligible children (includ-
2 ing children with disabilities) and limited
3 English proficient children and their families;

4 “(C) include as part of the reviews of the
5 programs, a review and assessment of program
6 effectiveness, as measured in accordance with
7 the results-based performance measures devel-
8 oped by the Secretary pursuant to subsection
9 (b) and with the standards established pursuant
10 to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection
11 (a)(1);

12 “(D) seek information from the commu-
13 nities and States where Head Start programs
14 exist about innovative or effective collaborative
15 efforts, barriers to collaboration, and the efforts
16 of the Head Start agencies to collaborate with
17 the entities carrying out early childhood edu-
18 cation and child care programs in the commu-
19 nity;

20 “(E) include as part of the reviews of the
21 programs, a review and assessment of whether
22 the programs are in conformity with the income
23 eligibility requirements under section 645 and
24 regulations promulgated under such section;

1 “(F) include as part of the reviews of the
2 programs, a review and assessment of whether
3 programs have adequately addressed the popu-
4 lation and community needs (including needs of
5 populations of limited English proficient chil-
6 dren and children of migrant and seasonal
7 farmworking families); and

8 “(G) include as part of the reviews of the
9 programs, data from the results of periodic
10 child assessments, and a review and assessment
11 of child outcomes and performance as they re-
12 late to State, local, and agency-determined
13 school readiness goals.”;

14 (4) in subsection (d)(1)(A), by inserting “and
15 identify the technical assistance to be provided con-
16 sistent with paragraph (3)” after “corrected”;

17 (5) in subsection (e), by striking the last sen-
18 tence and inserting “The information contained in
19 such report shall be made available to all parents
20 with children receiving assistance under this sub-
21 chapter in an understandable and uniform format,
22 and to the extent practicable, provided in a language
23 that the parents can understand. Such information
24 shall be made widely available through public means
25 such as distribution through public agencies, and, at

1 a minimum, by posting such information on the
2 Internet immediately upon publication.”; and

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

4 “(f) REDUCTION OF GRANTS AND REDISTRIBUTION
5 OF FUNDS IN CASES OF UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—

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

7 “(A) ACTUAL ENROLLMENT.—The term
8 ‘actual enrollment’ means, with respect to the
9 program of a Head Start agency, the actual
10 number of children enrolled in such program
11 and reported by the agency (as required in
12 paragraph (2)) in a given month.

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

17 “(i) from amounts reserved for use in
18 accordance with section 640(a)(2)(A), for a
19 Head Start agency administering an In-
20 dian Head Start program or migrant and
21 seasonal Head Start program;

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

1 “(iii) from amounts available under
2 section 640(a)(2)(D) or allotted among
3 States under section 640(a)(4).

4 “(C) FUNDED ENROLLMENT.—The term
5 ‘funded enrollment’ means, with respect to the
6 program of a Head Start agency in a fiscal
7 year, the number of children that the agency is
8 funded to serve through a grant for the pro-
9 gram during such fiscal year, as indicated in
10 the grant agreement.

11 “(2) ENROLLMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENT
12 FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.—Each entity carrying
13 out a Head Start program shall report on a monthly
14 basis to the Secretary and the relevant Head Start
15 agency—

16 “(A) the actual enrollment in such pro-
17 gram; and

18 “(B) if such actual enrollment is less than
19 the funded enrollment, any apparent reason for
20 such enrollment shortfall.

21 “(3) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND PLAN.—The
22 Secretary shall—

23 “(A) on a semiannual basis, determine
24 which Head Start agencies are operating with
25 an actual enrollment that is less than the fund-

1 ed enrollment based on not less than 4 consecu-
2 tive months of data;

3 “(B) for each such Head Start agency op-
4 erating a program with an actual enrollment
5 that is less than 95 percent of its funded enroll-
6 ment, as determined under subparagraph (A),
7 develop, in collaboration with such agency, a
8 plan and timetable for reducing or eliminating
9 under-enrollment taking into consideration—

10 “(i) the quality and extent of the out-
11 reach, recruitment, and community needs
12 assessment conducted by such agency;

13 “(ii) changing demographics, mobility
14 of populations, and the identification of
15 new underserved low-income populations;

16 “(iii) facilities-related issues that may
17 impact enrollment;

18 “(iv) the ability to provide full-day
19 programs, where needed, through Head
20 Start funds or through collaboration with
21 entities carrying out other preschool or
22 child care programs, or programs with
23 other funding sources (where available);

24 “(v) the availability and use by fami-
25 lies of other preschool and child care op-

1 tions (including parental care) in the local
2 catchment area; and

3 “(vi) agency management procedures
4 that may impact enrollment; and

5 “(C) provide timely and ongoing technical
6 assistance to each agency described in subpara-
7 graph (B) for the purpose of implementing the
8 plan described in such subparagraph.

9 “(4) IMPLEMENTATION.—Upon receipt of the
10 technical assistance described in paragraph (3)(C), a
11 Head Start agency shall immediately implement the
12 plan described in paragraph (3)(B).

13 “(5) SECRETARIAL ACTION FOR CONTINUED
14 UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—If, 1 year after the date of
15 implementation of the plan described in paragraph
16 (3)(B), the Head Start agency continues to operate
17 a program at less than full enrollment, the Secretary
18 shall, where determined appropriate, continue to
19 provide technical assistance to such agency.

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

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If, after receiving
23 technical assistance and developing and imple-
24 menting a plan to the extent described in para-
25 graphs (3), (4), and (5) for 18 months, a Head

1 Start agency is still operating a program with
2 an actual enrollment that is less than 95 per-
3 cent of its funded enrollment, the Secretary
4 may—

5 “(i) designate such agency as chron-
6 ically under-enrolled; and

7 “(ii) recapture, withhold, or reduce
8 the base grant for the program by, a per-
9 centage equal to the percentage difference
10 between funded enrollment and actual en-
11 rollment for the program for the most re-
12 cent year in which the agency is deter-
13 mined to be under-enrolled under para-
14 graph (2)(B).

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

19 “(i) the causes of the enrollment
20 shortfall, or a portion of the shortfall, are
21 beyond the agency’s control (such as serv-
22 ing significant numbers of migrant or sea-
23 sonal farmworker, homeless, foster, or
24 other highly mobile children);

1 “(ii) the shortfall can reasonably be
2 expected to be temporary; or

3 “(iii) the number of slots allotted to
4 the agency is small enough that under-en-
5 rollment does not constitute a significant
6 shortfall,

7 the Secretary may, as appropriate, waive or re-
8 duce the percentage recapturing, withholding,
9 or reduction otherwise required by subpara-
10 graph (A).

11 “(C) PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS; EF-
12 FECTIVE DATE.—The actions taken by the Sec-
13 retary under this paragraph with respect to a
14 Head Start agency shall take effect 1 day after
15 the date on which—

16 “(i) the time allowed for appeal under
17 section 646(a) expires without an appeal
18 by the agency; or

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

21 “(7) REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—

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

1 “(i) in the case of a Head Start agen-
2 cy administering an Indian Head Start
3 program or a migrant and seasonal Head
4 Start program, whose base grant is derived
5 from amounts specified in paragraph
6 (1)(C)(i), to redirect funds to 1 or more
7 agencies that—

8 “(I) are administering Head
9 Start programs serving the same spe-
10 cial population; and

11 “(II) demonstrate that the agen-
12 cies will use such redirected funds to
13 increase enrollment in their Head
14 Start programs in such fiscal year; or

15 “(ii) in the case of a Head Start agen-
16 cy in a State, whose base grant is derived
17 from amounts specified in clause (ii) or
18 (iii) of paragraph (1)(C), to redirect funds
19 to 1 or more agencies that—

20 “(I) are administering Head
21 Start programs in the same State;
22 and

23 “(II) make the demonstration de-
24 scribed in clause (i)(II).

1 subchapter, including under subsection (f), establish a
2 program under which the Secretary shall—

3 “(1) designate not more than 200 exemplary
4 Head Start agencies (including Early Head Start
5 agencies) as Centers of Excellence in Early Child-
6 hood; and

7 “(2) make bonus grants to the centers of excel-
8 lence to carry out the activities described in sub-
9 section (d).

10 “(c) APPLICATION AND DESIGNATION.—

11 “(1) APPLICATION.—

12 “(A) NOMINATION AND SUBMISSION.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to
14 receive a designation as a center of excel-
15 lence under subsection (b), a Head Start
16 agency in a State shall be nominated by
17 the Governor of the State and shall submit
18 an application to the Secretary at such
19 time, in such manner, and containing such
20 information as the Secretary may require.

21 “(ii) INDIAN AND MIGRANT AND SEA-
22 SONAL HEAD START PROGRAMS.—In the
23 case of an agency operating an Indian
24 Head Start program or a migrant and sea-
25 sonal Head Start program, to be eligible to

1 receive a designation as a center of excel-
2 lence under subsection (b), such an agency
3 shall be nominated by the Governor of the
4 State and by its program branch and shall
5 submit an application to the Secretary in
6 accordance with clause (i).

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

9 “(i) evidence that the Head Start pro-
10 gram carried out by the agency has signifi-
11 cantly improved the school readiness of,
12 and enhanced academic outcomes for, chil-
13 dren who have participated in the program;

14 “(ii) evidence that the program meets
15 or exceeds standards and performance
16 measures described in subsections (a) and
17 (b) of section 641A, as evidenced by suc-
18 cessful completion of programmatic and
19 monitoring reviews, and has no findings of
20 deficiencies with respect to the standards
21 and measures;

22 “(iii) evidence that the program is
23 making progress toward meeting the re-
24 quirements described in section 648A;

1 “(iv) evidence demonstrating the ex-
2 istence of a collaborative partnership be-
3 tween the Head Start agency and the
4 State (or a State agency);

5 “(v) a nomination letter from the
6 Governor, demonstrating the agency’s abil-
7 ity to carry out the coordination, transi-
8 tion, and training services of the program
9 to be carried out under the bonus grant in-
10 volved, including coordination of activities
11 with State and local agencies that provide
12 early childhood services to children and
13 families in the community served by the
14 agency; and

15 “(vi) information demonstrating the
16 existence of, or the agency’s plan to estab-
17 lish, a local council for excellence in early
18 childhood, which shall include representa-
19 tives of all the institutions, agencies, and
20 groups involved in the work of the center
21 for, and the local provision of services to,
22 eligible children and other at-risk children,
23 and their families.

24 “(2) SELECTION.—In selecting agencies to des-
25 ignate as centers of excellence under subsection (b),

1 the Secretary shall designate not less than 1 from
2 each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and
3 Puerto Rico.

4 “(3) TERM OF DESIGNATION.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
6 graph (B), the Secretary shall designate a Head
7 Start agency as a center of excellence for a 5-
8 year term. During the period of that designa-
9 tion, subject to the availability of appropria-
10 tions, the agency shall be eligible to receive a
11 bonus grant under subsection (b).

12 “(B) REVOCATION.—The Secretary may
13 revoke an agency’s designation under subsection
14 (b) if the Secretary determines that the agency
15 is not demonstrating adequate performance or
16 has had findings of deficiencies described in
17 paragraph (1)(B)(ii).

18 “(4) AMOUNT OF BONUS GRANT.—The Sec-
19 retary shall base the amount of funding provided
20 through a bonus grant made under subsection (b) to
21 a center of excellence on the number of children
22 served at the center of excellence. The Secretary
23 shall, subject to the availability of funding, make
24 such a bonus grant in an amount of not less than
25 \$100,000 per year.

1 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

2 “(1) ACTIVITIES.—A center of excellence that
3 receives a bonus grant under subsection (b) may use
4 the funds made available through the bonus grant—

5 “(A) to provide Head Start services to ad-
6 ditional eligible children;

7 “(B) to better meet the needs of working
8 families in the community served by the center
9 by serving more children in existing Early Head
10 Start programs (existing as of the date the cen-
11 ter is designated under this section) or in full-
12 working-day, full calendar year Head Start pro-
13 grams;

14 “(C) to model and disseminate best prac-
15 tices for achieving early academic success, in-
16 cluding achieving school readiness and devel-
17 oping prereading and premathematics skills for
18 at-risk children and achieving the acquisition of
19 the English language for limited English pro-
20 ficient children, and to provide seamless service
21 delivery for eligible children and their families;

22 “(D) to coordinate early childhood and so-
23 cial services available in the community served
24 by the center for at-risk children (prenatal
25 through age 8) and their families, including

1 services provided by child care providers, health
2 care providers, and providers of income-based
3 financial assistance, and other State and local
4 services;

5 “(E) to provide training and cross training
6 for Head Start teachers and staff, and to de-
7 velop agency leaders;

8 “(F) to provide effective transitions be-
9 tween Head Start programs and elementary
10 school, to facilitate ongoing communication be-
11 tween Head Start and elementary school teach-
12 ers concerning children receiving Head Start
13 services, and to provide training and technical
14 assistance to providers who are public elemen-
15 tary school teachers and other staff of local
16 educational agencies, child care providers, fam-
17 ily service providers, and other providers of
18 early childhood services, to help the providers
19 described in this subparagraph increase their
20 ability to work with low-income, at-risk children
21 and their families; and

22 “(G) to carry out other activities deter-
23 mined by the center to improve the overall qual-
24 ity of the Head Start program carried out by

1 the agency and the program carried out under
2 the bonus grant involved.

3 “(2) INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER HEAD START
4 AGENCIES AND PROVIDERS.—Not later than the sec-
5 ond year for which the center receives a bonus grant
6 under subsection (b), the center, in carrying out ac-
7 tivities under this subsection, shall work with the
8 center’s delegate agencies, several additional Head
9 Start agencies, and other providers of early child-
10 hood services in the community involved, to encour-
11 age the agencies and providers described in this sen-
12 tence to carry out model programs. The center shall
13 establish the local council described in subsection
14 (c)(1)(B)(vi).

15 “(e) RESEARCH AND REPORTS.—

16 “(1) RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall, subject
17 to the availability of funds to carry out this sub-
18 section, make a grant to an independent organiza-
19 tion to conduct research on the ability of the centers
20 of excellence to improve the school readiness of chil-
21 dren receiving Head Start services, and to positively
22 impact school results in the earliest grades. The or-
23 ganization shall also conduct research to measure
24 the success of the centers of excellence at encour-
25 aging the center’s delegate agencies, additional Head

1 Start agencies, and other providers of early child-
2 hood services in the communities involved to meet
3 measurable improvement goals, particularly in the
4 area of school readiness.

5 “(2) REPORT.—Not later than 48 months after
6 the date of enactment of the Head Start Improve-
7 ments for School Readiness Act, the organization
8 shall prepare and submit to the Secretary and Con-
9 gress a report containing the results of the research
10 described in paragraph (1).

11 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2004 and
13 each subsequent fiscal year—

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

17 “(2) \$2,500,000 to pay for the administrative
18 costs of the Secretary in carrying out this section,
19 including the cost of a conference of centers of excel-
20 lence; and

21 “(3) \$2,000,000 for research activities de-
22 scribed in subsection (e).”.

1 **SEC. 10. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-**
2 **CIES.**

3 Section 642 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837)
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 **“SEC. 642. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-**
6 **CIES.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In order to be designated as a
8 Head Start agency under this subchapter, an agency shall
9 have authority under its charter or applicable law to re-
10 ceive and administer funds provided under this sub-
11 chapter, funds and contributions from private or local
12 public sources that may be used in support of a Head
13 Start program, and funds provided under any Federal or
14 State assistance program pursuant to which a public or
15 private nonprofit or for-profit agency (as the case may be)
16 organized in accordance with this subchapter, could act
17 as a grantee, contractor, or sponsor of projects appro-
18 priate for inclusion in a Head Start program. Such an
19 agency shall also be empowered to transfer funds so re-
20 ceived, and to delegate powers to other agencies, subject
21 to the powers of its governing board and its overall pro-
22 gram responsibilities. The power to transfer funds and del-
23 egate powers shall include the power to make transfers
24 and delegations covering component projects in all cases
25 in which that power will contribute to efficiency and effec-
26 tiveness or otherwise further program objectives.

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

4 “(1) establish a program with all standards set
5 forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular atten-
6 tion to the standards set forth in subparagraphs (A)
7 and (B) of such section;

8 “(2) demonstrate the capacity to serve eligible
9 children with scientifically based curricula and other
10 interventions and support services that help promote
11 the school readiness of children participating in the
12 program;

13 “(3) establish effective procedures and provide
14 for the regular assessment of Head Start children,
15 including observational and direct formal assess-
16 ment, where appropriate;

17 “(4) seek the involvement of parents, area resi-
18 dents, and local business in the design and imple-
19 mentation of the program;

20 “(5) provide for the regular participation of
21 parents and area residents in the implementation of
22 the program;

23 “(6) provide technical and other support needed
24 to enable such parents and area residents to secure,

1 on their own behalf, available assistance from public
2 and private sources;

3 “(7) establish effective procedures to facilitate
4 the involvement of parents of participating children
5 in activities designed to help such parents become
6 full partners in the education of their children, and
7 to afford such parents the opportunity to participate
8 in the development and overall conduct of the pro-
9 gram at the local level;

10 “(8) conduct outreach to schools in which Head
11 Start children will enroll, local educational agencies,
12 the local business community, community-based or-
13 ganizations, faith-based organizations, museums,
14 and libraries to generate support and leverage the
15 resources of the entire local community in order to
16 improve school readiness;

17 “(9) offer (directly or through referral to local
18 entities, such as entities carrying out Even Start
19 programs under subpart 3 of part B of title I of the
20 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
21 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.)), to parents of partici-
22 pating children, family literacy services, and par-
23 enting skills training;

24 “(10) offer to parents of participating children
25 substance abuse and other counseling (either directly

1 or through referral to local entities), if needed, in-
2 cluding information on the effect of drug exposure
3 on infants and fetal alcohol syndrome;

4 “(11) at the option of such agency, offer (di-
5 rectly or through referral to local entities), to such
6 parents—

7 “(A) training in basic child development
8 (including cognitive development);

9 “(B) assistance in developing literacy and
10 communication skills;

11 “(C) opportunities to share experiences
12 with other parents (including parent mentor re-
13 lationships);

14 “(D) regular in-home visitation; or

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

18 “(12) provide, with respect to each partici-
19 pating family, a family needs assessment that in-
20 cludes consultation with such parents about the ben-
21 efits of parent involvement and about the activities
22 described in this subsection in which such parents
23 may choose to be involved (taking into consideration
24 their specific family needs, work schedules, and
25 other responsibilities);

1 “(13) consider providing services to assist
2 younger siblings of children participating in its Head
3 Start program, to obtain health services from other
4 sources;

5 “(14) perform community outreach to encour-
6 age individuals previously unaffiliated with Head
7 Start programs to participate in its Head Start pro-
8 gram as volunteers; and

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

15 “(B) refer eligible parents to the child support
16 offices of State and local governments.

17 “(c) PROGRESS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Head Start agency
19 shall take steps to ensure, to the maximum extent
20 possible, that children maintain the developmental
21 and educational gains achieved in Head Start pro-
22 grams and build upon such gains in further school-
23 ing.

24 “(2) COORDINATION.—

1 “(A) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—In
2 communities where both public prekindergarten
3 programs and Head Start programs operate, a
4 Head Start agency shall collaborate and coordi-
5 nate activities with the local educational agency
6 or other public agency responsible for the oper-
7 ation of the prekindergarten program and pro-
8 viders of prekindergarten, including outreach
9 activities to identify eligible children.

10 “(B) ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.—Head Start
11 staff shall, with the permission of the parents
12 of children enrolled in Head Start programs,
13 regularly communicate with the elementary
14 schools such children will be attending to—

15 “(i) share information about such
16 children;

17 “(ii) get advice and support from the
18 teachers in such elementary schools re-
19 garding teaching strategies and options;
20 and

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

23 “(C) OTHER PROGRAMS.—The head of
24 each Head Start agency shall coordinate activi-
25 ties and collaborate with the State agency re-

1 sponsible for administering the State program
2 carried out under the Child Care and Develop-
3 ment Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858
4 et seq.), and other entities carrying out early
5 childhood education and development programs,
6 programs under subtitle B of title VII of the
7 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
8 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.), Even Start programs
9 under subpart 3 of part B of title I of the Ele-
10 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
11 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.), and programs under
12 section 619 and part C of the Individuals with
13 Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419,
14 1431 et seq.), serving the children and families
15 served by the Head Start agency.

16 “(3) COLLABORATION.—A Head Start agency
17 shall take steps to coordinate activities with the local
18 educational agency serving the community involved
19 and with schools in which children participating in
20 a Head Start program operated by such agency will
21 enroll following such program, including—

22 “(A) collaborating on the shared use of
23 transportation and facilities;

24 “(B) collaborating to reduce the duplica-
25 tion of services while increasing the program

1 participation of underserved populations of eli-
2 gible children; and

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

5 “(4) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—In order to
6 promote the continued involvement of the parents of
7 children that participate in Head Start programs in
8 the education of their children upon transition to
9 school, the Head Start agency shall—

10 “(A) provide training to the parents—

11 “(i) to inform the parents about their
12 rights and responsibilities concerning the
13 education of their children; and

14 “(ii) to enable the parents—

15 “(I) to understand and work with
16 schools in order to communicate with
17 teachers and other school personnel;

18 “(II) to support the schoolwork
19 of their children; and

20 “(III) to participate as appro-
21 priate in decisions relating to the edu-
22 cation of their children; and

23 “(B) take other actions, as appropriate
24 and feasible, to support the active involvement

1 of the parents with schools, school personnel,
2 and school-related organizations.

3 “(d) ASSESSMENT.—Each Head Start agency shall
4 adopt, in consultation with experts in child development
5 and with classroom teachers, an assessment to be used
6 when hiring or evaluating any classroom teacher in a cen-
7 ter-based Head Start program. Such assessment shall
8 measure whether such teacher has mastered the functions
9 described in section 648A(a)(1) and attained a level of lit-
10 eracy appropriate to implement Head Start curricula.

11 “(e) FUNDED ENROLLMENT; WAITING LIST.—Each
12 Head Start agency shall enroll 100 percent of its funded
13 enrollment and maintain an active waiting list at all times
14 with ongoing outreach to the community and activities to
15 identify underserved populations.”.

16 **SEC. 11. HEAD START TRANSITION.**

17 Section 642A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
18 9837a) is amended to read as follows:

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

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

1 “(1) developing and implementing a systematic
2 procedure for transferring, with parental consent,
3 Head Start program records for each participating
4 child to the school in which such child will enroll;

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

13 “(3) developing continuity of developmentally
14 appropriate curricula and practice between the Head
15 Start agency and local educational agency to ensure
16 an effective transition and appropriate shared expect-
17 ations for children’s learning and development as
18 the children make the transition to school;

19 “(4) conducting meetings involving parents,
20 kindergarten or elementary school teachers, and
21 Head Start teachers to discuss the educational, de-
22 velopmental, and other needs of individual children;

23 “(5) organizing and participating in joint train-
24 ing, including transition-related training of school
25 staff and Head Start staff;

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

11 “(7) assisting families, administrators, and
12 teachers in enhancing educational and developmental
13 continuity and continuity of parental involvement in
14 activities between Head Start services and elemen-
15 tary school classes;

16 “(8) linking the services provided in such Head
17 Start program with the education services, including
18 services relating to language, literacy, and
19 numeracy, provided by such local educational agen-
20 cy;

21 “(9) helping parents understand the importance
22 of parental involvement in a child’s academic success
23 while teaching the parents strategies for maintaining
24 parental involvement as their child moves from the
25 Head Start program to elementary school;

1 “(10) developing and implementing a system to
2 increase program participation of underserved popu-
3 lations of eligible children, including children with
4 disabilities and limited English proficient children;
5 and

6 “(11) coordinating activities and collaborating
7 to ensure that curricula used in the Head Start pro-
8 gram is aligned with State early learning standards
9 with regard to cognitive, social, emotional, and phys-
10 ical competencies that children entering kinder-
11 garten are expected to demonstrate.”.

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

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

15 (1) in the first sentence, by inserting “for ap-
16 proval” after “submitted to the chief executive offi-
17 cer of the State”; and

18 (2) in the last sentence, by inserting “to Indian
19 and migrant and seasonal Head Start programs in
20 existence on the date of enactment of the Head
21 Start Improvements for School Readiness Act, or”
22 after “other assistance”.

23 **SEC. 13. PARTICIPATION IN HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

24 Section 645(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
25 9840(a)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “130 per-
2 cent of” after “below”; and

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

4 “(3)(A) In this paragraph:

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

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

12 “(B) The following amounts of pay and allowance of
13 a member of the uniformed services shall not be consid-
14 ered to be income for purposes of determining the eligi-
15 bility of a dependent of such member for programs funded
16 under this subchapter:

17 “(i) The amount of any special pay payable
18 under section 310 if title 37, United States Code, re-
19 lating to duty subject to hostile fire or imminent
20 danger.

21 “(ii) The amount of basic allowance payable
22 under section 403 of such title, including any such
23 amount that is provided on behalf of the member for
24 housing that is acquired or constructed under the al-
25 ternative authority for the acquisition and improve-

1 ment of military housing under subchapter IV of
2 chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, or any
3 other related provision of law.

4 “(4) After demonstrating a need through a commu-
5 nity needs assessment, a Head Start agency may apply
6 to the Secretary to convert part-day sessions, particularly
7 consecutive part-day sessions, into full-day sessions.”.

8 **SEC. 14. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

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

11 (1) by striking the section heading and insert-
12 ing the following:

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

14 (2) in subsection (b)—

15 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “provide
16 services to parents to support their role as par-
17 ents” and inserting “provide additional services
18 to parents to support their role as parents (in-
19 cluding parenting skills training and training in
20 basic child development)”;

21 (B) in paragraph (5)—

22 (i) by inserting “(including home-
23 based services)” after “with services”; and

24 (ii) by inserting “, and family support
25 services” after “health services”;

1 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (7), (8),
2 and (9) as paragraphs (9), (10), and (11), re-
3 spectively;

4 (D) by inserting after paragraph (6) the
5 following:

6 “(7) develop and implement a systematic proce-
7 dure for transitioning children and parents from an
8 Early Head Start program into a Head Start pro-
9 gram or another local early childhood education pro-
10 gram;

11 “(8) establish channels of communication be-
12 tween staff of Early Head Start programs and staff
13 of Head Start programs or other local early child-
14 hood education programs, to facilitate the coordina-
15 tion of programs;” and

16 (E) in paragraph (10), as so redesign-
17 nated—

18 (i) by striking “and providers” and in-
19 serting “, providers”; and

20 (ii) by inserting “, and the agencies
21 responsible for administering section 106
22 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treat-
23 ment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a)” after “(20
24 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.)”;

25 (3) in subsection (d)—

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

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, in-
6 cluding community-based organizations” after
7 “private entities”;

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

10 “(iv) providing professional develop-
11 ment and personnel enhancement activi-
12 ties, including the provision of funds to re-
13 cipients of grants under subsection (a), re-
14 lating to—

15 “(I) effective methods of con-
16 ducting parent education, home vis-
17 iting, and promoting quality early
18 childhood development;

19 “(II) recruiting and retaining
20 qualified staff; and

21 “(III) increasing program partici-
22 pation for underserved populations of
23 eligible children.”;

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

25 “(h) STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT.—

1 “(1) CENTER-BASED STAFF.—The Secretary
2 shall ensure that, not later than September 30,
3 2009, all teachers providing direct services to Early
4 Head Start children and families in Early Head
5 Start centers have a minimum of a child develop-
6 ment associate credential or an associate degree, and
7 have been trained (or have equivalent course work)
8 in early childhood development.

9 “(2) HOME VISITOR STAFF.—

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

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

22 “(i) structured child-focused home vis-
23 iting that promotes parents’ ability to sup-
24 port the child’s cognitive, social, emotional,
25 and physical development;

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

4 “(iii) early childhood development
5 with respect to children from birth through
6 age 3;

7 “(iv) methods to help parents promote
8 emergent literacy in their children from
9 birth through age 3;

10 “(v) health, vision, hearing, and devel-
11 opmental screenings;

12 “(vi) strategies for helping families
13 coping with crisis; and

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

17 **SEC. 15. RECORDS AND AUDITS.**

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

22 (b) **ACCOUNTING.**—Section 647 of the Head Start
23 Act (42 U.S.C. 9842) is amended by adding at the end
24 the following:

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

8 **SEC. 16. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.**

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

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

13 (2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e)
14 as subsections (c) through (f), respectively;

15 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(b) The Secretary shall make available funds set
18 aside in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) to support a regional or
19 State system of early childhood education training and
20 technical assistance that improves the capacity of Head
21 Start programs to deliver services in accordance with the
22 standards described in section 641A(a)(1), with particular
23 attention to the standards described in subparagraphs (A)
24 and (B) of such section. The Secretary shall—

1 “(1) ensure that agencies with demonstrated
2 expertise in providing high quality training and tech-
3 nical assistance to improve the delivery of Head
4 Start services, including the State Head Start Asso-
5 ciations, State agencies, migrant and seasonal Head
6 Start programs, and other entities providing training
7 and technical assistance in early education, for the
8 region or State are included in the planning and co-
9 ordination of the system; and

10 “(2) encourage States to supplement the funds
11 authorized in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) with Federal,
12 State, or local funds other than Head Start funds,
13 to expand training and technical assistance activities
14 beyond Head Start agencies to include other pro-
15 viders of other early childhood services within a re-
16 gion or State.”;

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

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

21 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and
22 for activities described in section 1221(b)(3) of
23 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
24 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6371(b)(3))” after “chil-
25 dren with disabilities”;

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

4 (D) in paragraph (10), by striking “; and”
5 and inserting a semicolon;

6 (E) in paragraph (11), by striking the pe-
7 riod and inserting “; and”; and

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

9 “(12) assist Head Start agencies and programs
10 in increasing the program participation of eligible
11 homeless children.”;

12 (5) in subsection (e), as so redesignated, by in-
13 serting “including community-based organizations,”
14 after “nonprofit entities”;

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

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

22 “(g) The Secretary shall provide, either directly or
23 through grants or other arrangements, funds for training
24 of Head Start personnel in addressing the unique needs

1 of migrant and seasonal farmworking families, families
2 with limited English proficiency, and homeless families.

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

9 “(1) Education and early childhood develop-
10 ment.

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

12 “(3) Family and community partnerships.

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

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

20 “(1) available locally or regionally; or

21 “(2) substantially similar to locally or regionally
22 available training activities.

23 “(j)(1) To support local efforts to enhance early lan-
24 guage and preliteracy development of children in Head
25 Start programs, and to provide the children with high-

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

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

16 “(A) to be provided, to the extent feasible, in
17 the context of the Head Start programs of the State
18 involved and the children the program 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 English
6 language learners, have speech and language delays, in-
7 cluding problems with articulation, or have other disabil-
8 ities.”.

9 **SEC. 17. STAFF QUALIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT.**

10 Section 648A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
11 9843a) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
14 ing the following:

15 “(2) DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
17 ensure that—

18 “(i) not later than September 30,
19 2009, all Head Start teachers in center-
20 based programs have at least—

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

24 “(bb) an associate degree in a re-
25 lated educational area and, to the ex-

1 tent practicable, coursework relating
2 to early childhood; and

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

12 “(ii) not later than September 30,
13 2007, all Head Start curriculum specialists
14 and education coordinators in center-based
15 programs have—

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

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

24 “(bb) a baccalaureate or ad-
25 vanced degree and coursework equiva-

1 lent to a major relating to early child-
2 hood;

3 “(iii) not later than September 30,
4 2007, all Head Start teaching assistants in
5 center-based programs have—

6 “(I) at least a child development
7 associate credential;

8 “(II) enrolled in a program lead-
9 ing to an associate or baccalaureate
10 degree; or

11 “(III) enrolled in a child develop-
12 ment associate credential program to
13 be completed within 2 years; and

14 “(iv) not later than September 30,
15 2010, 50 percent of all Head Start teach-
16 ers in each center-based program have a
17 baccalaureate degree relating to early
18 childhood or a related educational area (or
19 equivalent coursework), and demonstrated
20 teaching competencies, as determined by
21 the program director involved (including,
22 at a minimum, an appropriate level of lit-
23 eracy, a demonstrated capacity to be highly
24 engaged with children, and a demonstrated

1 ability to effectively implement an early
2 childhood curriculum).

3 “(B) PROGRESS.—

4 “(i) REPORT.—The Secretary shall—

5 “(I) require Head Start agencies
6 to—

7 “(aa) demonstrate con-
8 tinuing progress each year to
9 reach the result described in sub-
10 paragraph (A);

11 “(bb) submit to the Sec-
12 retary a report indicating the
13 number and percentage of class-
14 room instructors in center-based
15 programs with child development
16 associate credentials or associate,
17 baccalaureate, or graduate de-
18 grees; and

19 “(II) compile and submit a sum-
20 mary of all program reports described
21 in subclause (I)(bb) to the Committee
22 on Education and the Workforce of
23 the House of Representatives and the
24 Committee on Health, Education,
25 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

1 “(C) SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
2 retary shall establish requirements to ensure
3 that, in order to enable Head Start agencies to
4 comply with the requirements of subparagraph
5 (A), individuals who receive financial assistance
6 under this subchapter to pursue a degree de-
7 scribed in subparagraph (A) shall—

8 “(i) teach or work in a Head Start
9 program for a minimum of 3 years after
10 receiving the degree; or

11 “(ii) repay the total or a prorated
12 amount of the financial assistance received
13 based on the length of service completed
14 after receiving the degree.”; and

15 (B) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and
16 inserting the following:

17 “(3) WAIVER.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—On request, the Sec-
19 retary may grant a waiver of the postsecondary
20 degree requirements of paragraph (2) for 1 or
21 more Head Start agencies, either individually,
22 statewide, or throughout a region, that can
23 demonstrate—

24 “(i) that continuing aggressive state-
25 wide and national efforts have been unsuc-

1 cessful at recruiting an individual to serve
2 as a Head Start teacher or curriculum spe-
3 cialist or education coordinator who meets
4 the requirements of paragraph (2)(A);

5 “(ii) limited access to degree pro-
6 grams (including quality distance learning
7 programs), due to the remote location of
8 the program involved; or

9 “(iii) that Head Start staff members
10 are, as of the day the waiver is granted, is
11 enrolled in a program that—

12 “(I) grants the required degree;

13 and

14 “(II) will be completed within 1

15 year.

16 “(B) LIMITATION.—An agency that re-
17 ceives a waiver under subparagraph (A) shall
18 ensure that Head Start teachers for the agency,
19 as of the day the waiver is granted, who have
20 not met the postsecondary degree requirements
21 of paragraph (2) but are otherwise highly quali-
22 fied and competent shall be directly and appro-
23 priately supervised by a teacher who has met or
24 exceeded the requirements of this subchapter.

1 “(C) DURATION.—The Secretary may not
2 grant a waiver under subparagraph (A) for a
3 period that exceeds 1 year.”;

4 (2) in subsection (c)—

5 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at
6 the end;

7 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking the pe-
8 riod and inserting “; and”; and

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

10 “(4) promote the use of appropriate strategies
11 to meet the needs of special populations (including
12 limited English proficient populations).”;

13 (3) in subsection (d)(3)(C) by inserting “, in-
14 cluding a center,” after “any agency”; and

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

16 “(f) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS.—Every
17 Head Start agency and center shall create, in consultation
18 with employees of the agency or center (including family
19 service workers), a professional development plan for em-
20 ployees who provide direct services to children, including
21 a plan for classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, and
22 education coordinators to meet the requirements set forth
23 in subsection (a).”.

1 **SEC. 18. TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES HEAD**
2 **START PARTNERSHIP.**

3 The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) is
4 amended by inserting after section 648A the following:

5 **“SEC. 648B. TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY-HEAD START**
6 **PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**

7 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to
8 promote social competencies and school readiness in In-
9 dian children.

10 “(b) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY-HEAD START
11 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.—

12 “(1) GRANTS.—The Secretary is authorized to
13 award grants, for periods of not less than 5 years,
14 to Tribal Colleges and Universities to—

15 “(A) implement education programs that
16 include education concerning tribal culture and
17 language and increase the number of associate,
18 baccalaureate, and graduate degrees in early
19 childhood education and related fields that are
20 earned by Indian Head Start agency staff mem-
21 bers, parents of children served by such an
22 agency, and members of the tribal community
23 involved;

24 “(B) develop and implement the programs
25 under subparagraph (A) in technology-mediated
26 formats; and

1 “(C) provide technology literacy programs
2 for Indian Head Start agency staff members
3 and children and families of children served by
4 such an agency.

5 “(2) STAFFING.—The Secretary shall ensure
6 that the American Indian Programs Branch of the
7 Head Start Bureau of the Department of Health
8 and Human Services shall have staffing sufficient to
9 administer the programs under this section and to
10 provide appropriate technical assistance to Tribal
11 Colleges and Universities receiving grants under this
12 section.

13 “(c) APPLICATION.—Each Tribal College or Univer-
14 sity desiring a grant under this section shall submit an
15 application to the Secretary, at such time, in such manner,
16 and containing such information as the Secretary may re-
17 quire, including a certification that the Tribal College or
18 University has established a partnership with 1 or more
19 Indian Head Start agencies for the purpose of conducting
20 the activities described in subsection (b).

21 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,
23 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may
24 be necessary for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2008.

25 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
 2 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
 3 meaning given such term in section 101(a) of the
 4 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

5 “(2) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The
 6 term ‘Tribal College or University’—

7 “(A) has the meaning given such term in
 8 section 316 of the Higher Education Act of
 9 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c); and

10 “(B) means an institution determined to
 11 be accredited or a candidate for accreditation
 12 by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or
 13 association.”.

14 **SEC. 19. RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND EVALUATION.**

15 Section 649 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9844)
 16 is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by inserting “and
 18 children determined to be abused or neglected” after
 19 “children with disabilities”;

20 (2) in subsection (d)—

21 (A) in paragraph (8), by adding “and”
 22 after the semicolon;

23 (B) by striking paragraph (9);

24 (C) by redesignating paragraph (10) as
 25 paragraph (9); and

- 1 (D) by striking the last sentence;
- 2 (3) in subsection (g)—
- 3 (A) in paragraph (1)(A)—
- 4 (i) by striking clause (i); and
- 5 (ii) by redesignating clauses (ii) and
- 6 (iii) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;
- 7 and
- 8 (B) in paragraph (7)(C)—
- 9 (i) in clause (i)—
- 10 (I) by striking “1999” and in-
- 11 serring “2003”;
- 12 (II) by striking “2001” and in-
- 13 serring “2005”; and
- 14 (III) by striking “2003” and in-
- 15 serring “2006”; and
- 16 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “Labor
- 17 and Human Resources” and inserting
- 18 “Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
- 19 sions”; and
- 20 (4) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the
- 21 following:
- 22 “(h) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES STUDY.—
- 23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter
- 24 into a contract with the Board on Children, Youth,
- 25 and Families of the National Research Council, the

1 Board on Testing and Assessments, and the Insti-
2 tute of Medicine, of the National Academy of
3 Sciences to establish an independent panel of experts
4 to review and synthesize research and theories in the
5 social, behavioral, and biological sciences regarding
6 early childhood, and make recommendations with re-
7 gard to each of the following:

8 “(A) Age- and developmentally appropriate
9 Head Start academic requirements and out-
10 comes, including the standards described in sec-
11 tion 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii).

12 “(B) Differences in the type, length, mix,
13 and intensity of services that are necessary to
14 ensure that children from challenging family or
15 social backgrounds (including low-income chil-
16 dren, children with disabilities, and limited
17 English proficient children) enter kindergarten
18 ready to succeed.

19 “(C) Appropriate assessments of young
20 children for the purposes of improving instruc-
21 tion, services, and program quality, including—

22 “(i) formal and systematic observa-
23 tional assessments in a child’s natural en-
24 vironment;

1 “(ii) assessments of children’s devel-
2 opment through parent and provider inter-
3 views;

4 “(iii) assessments of appropriate ac-
5 commodations for children with disabilities;

6 “(iv) appropriate assessments for chil-
7 dren with disabilities, limited English pro-
8 ficient children, and children from different
9 cultural backgrounds; and

10 “(v) other assessments used in Head
11 Start programs.

12 “(D) Identification of existing, or rec-
13 ommendations for the development of, scientif-
14 ically-based, valid and reliable assessments that
15 are capable of measuring child outcomes in the
16 domains important to school readiness, includ-
17 ing language skills, prereading ability,
18 premathematics ability, cognitive ability, sci-
19 entific ability, social and emotional develop-
20 ment, and physical development;

21 “(E) Appropriate use and application of
22 valid and reliable assessments for Head Start
23 programs identified in accordance with subpara-
24 graph (D).

25 “(2) COMPOSITION.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The panel described
2 in paragraph (1) shall consist of multiple ex-
3 perts in each of the following areas:

4 “(i) Child development (including cog-
5 nitive, social, emotional, and physical de-
6 velopment) and child education (including
7 approaches to learning).

8 “(ii) Professional development, includ-
9 ing preparation of individuals who teach
10 young children.

11 “(iii) Assessment of young children
12 (including children with disabilities and
13 limited English proficient children), includ-
14 ing screening, diagnostic, and classroom-
15 based instructional assessment.

16 “(B) REPRESENTATIVES.—The panel de-
17 scribed in paragraph (1) shall be selected and
18 appointed by the National Academy of Sciences,
19 after consultation with the Secretary of Health
20 and Human Services, and shall include, to the
21 extent practicable, representatives of—

22 “(i) the Department of Health and
23 Human Services, including representatives
24 of—

1 “(I) the Centers for Disease Con-
2 trol and Prevention;

3 “(II) the National Institute of
4 Mental Health; and

5 “(III) the National Institute of
6 Child Health and Human Develop-
7 ment;

8 “(ii) the National Association for the
9 Education of Young Children;

10 “(iii) the National Center for Learn-
11 ing Disabilities;

12 “(iv) the American Academy of Pedi-
13 atrics;

14 “(v) the Institute of Education
15 Sciences of the Department of Education;

16 “(vi) the General Accounting Office;
17 and

18 “(vii) other entities with noted experts
19 in the fields of early care and early child-
20 hood education, including additional rep-
21 resentatives of Federal agencies.

22 “(3) TIMING.—

23 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90
24 days after the date of enactment of the Head
25 Start Improvements for School Readiness Act,

1 the Board on Children, Youth, and Families of
2 the National Research Council, the Board on
3 Testing and Assessments, and the Institute of
4 Medicine, of the National Academy of Sciences
5 shall establish the panel described in paragraph
6 (1), including selecting and appointing the
7 members of the panel. Representatives de-
8 scribed in paragraph (2) shall be selected and
9 appointed after consultation with the Secretary.

10 “(B) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than
11 1 year after the panel described in paragraph
12 (1) is established, the panel shall complete, and
13 submit to the Secretary a report containing, the
14 recommendations described in paragraph (1).
15 The Secretary shall not implement the amend-
16 ments made to section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) by the
17 Head Start Improvements for School Readiness
18 Act until the panel submits the report.

19 “(4) APPLICATION OF PANEL REPORT.—The
20 Secretary shall use the results of the review and rec-
21 ommendations described in paragraph (1) to (where
22 appropriate) develop, inform, and revise—

23 “(A) the educational standards, and the
24 performance measures, described in section
25 641A; and

1 “(B) the assessments utilized in the Head
2 Start programs.

3 “(5) CONTRACT.—The Secretary shall ensure
4 that the contract referred to in paragraph (1) pro-
5 vides that—

6 “(A) the National Academy of Sciences
7 shall receive through the contract—

8 “(i)(I) a total amount if the panel de-
9 scribed in paragraph (1) submits the re-
10 port described in paragraph (3)(B) not
11 later than the date that is 1 year after the
12 panel is established; or

13 “(II) $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total amount if the
14 panel submits the report later than that
15 date; and

16 “(ii)(I) not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total
17 amount, prior to the date on which the
18 panel is established; and

19 “(II) the remainder of the sum de-
20 scribed in subclause (I) or (II) of clause
21 (i), as appropriate, after the panel submits
22 the report; and

23 “(B) the Secretary may require additional
24 penalties, including repayment of funds, as ap-

1 appropriate, for failure to submit the report or to
2 carry out other duties under this subsection.

3 “(i) SERVICES TO LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT
4 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.—

5 “(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a
6 study on the status of limited English proficient
7 children and their families in Head Start or Early
8 Head Start programs.

9 “(2) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare
10 and submit to Congress, not later than September
11 2008, a report containing the results of the study,
12 including information on—

13 “(A) the demographics of limited English
14 proficient children from birth through age 5, in-
15 cluding the number of such children receiving
16 Head Start or Early Head Start services and
17 the geographic distribution of children described
18 in this subparagraph;

19 “(B) the nature of Head Start or Early
20 Head Start services provided to limited English
21 proficient children and their families, including
22 the types, content, duration, intensity, and costs
23 of family services, language assistance, and
24 educational services;

1 “(C) procedures in Head Start programs
2 for the assessment of language needs and the
3 transition of limited English proficient children
4 to kindergarten, including the extent to which
5 Head Start programs meet the requirements of
6 section 642A for limited English proficient chil-
7 dren;

8 “(D) the qualifications and training pro-
9 vided to Head Start and Early Head Start
10 teachers serving limited English proficient chil-
11 dren and their families;

12 “(E) the rate of progress made by limited
13 English proficient children and their families in
14 Head Start programs and Early Head Start
15 programs, including—

16 “(i) the rate of progress of the limited
17 English proficient children toward meeting
18 the additional educational standards de-
19 scribed in section 641A(a)(1)(B)(ii) while
20 enrolled in Head Start programs, meas-
21 ured between 1990 and 2003;

22 “(ii) the correlation between such
23 progress and the type of instruction and
24 educational program provided to the lim-
25 ited English proficient children; and

1 “(iii) the correlation between such
2 progress and the health and family services
3 provided by Head Start programs to lim-
4 ited English proficient children and their
5 families; and

6 “(F) the extent to which Head Start pro-
7 grams make use of funds under section
8 640(a)(3) to improve the quality of Head Start
9 services provided to limited English proficient
10 children and their families.”.

11 **SEC. 20. REPORTS.**

12 Section 650(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
13 9846(a)) is amended—

14 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
15 striking “Labor and Human Resources” and insert-
16 ing “Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (8), by inserting “homeless-
18 ness,” after “ethnic background,”.

19 **SEC. 21. COMPARABILITY OF WAGES.**

20 Section 653 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9848)
21 is amended—

22 (1) by striking “The Secretary shall take” and
23 inserting “(a) The Secretary shall take”;

24 (2) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by
25 striking “or (2)” and inserting “(2) in excess of the

1 salary of the Secretary, in the case of an individual
2 compensated with funds awarded under this sub-
3 chapter or the Community Services Block Grant Act
4 (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.); or (3)”; and

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

6 “(b) If in any fiscal year the restriction described in
7 subsection (a)(2) is violated, the Secretary shall withhold
8 from the base grant of the Head Start agency involved
9 (as defined in section 641A(f)(1)) for the next fiscal year,
10 an amount equal to the aggregate amount by which the
11 salary that resulted in the violation exceeded the salary
12 of the Secretary.”.

13 **SEC. 22. LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN UNLAW-**
14 **FUL ACTIVITIES.**

15 Section 655 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9850)
16 is amended by inserting “or in” after “assigned by”.

17 **SEC. 23. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

18 Section 656 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9851)
19 is amended—

20 (1) by striking all that precedes “chapter 15”
21 and inserting the following:

22 **“SEC. 656. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

23 “(a) STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY.—For purposes of”;
24 and

1 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(b) RESTRICTIONS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A program assisted under
5 this subchapter, and any individual employed by, or
6 assigned to, a program assessed under this sub-
7 chapter (during the hours in which such individual
8 is working on behalf of such program), shall not en-
9 gage in—

10 “(A) any partisan or nonpartisan political
11 activity or any other political activity associated
12 with a candidate, or contending faction or
13 group, in an election for public or party office;

14 “(B) any activity to provide voters or pro-
15 spective voters with transportation to the polls
16 or similar assistance in connection with any
17 such election; or

18 “(C) any voter registration activity.

19 “(2) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The Sec-
20 retary, after consultation with the Director of the
21 Office of Personnel Management, may issue rules
22 and regulations to provide for the enforcement of
23 this section, which may include provisions for sum-
24 mary suspension of assistance or other action nec-

1 tablished methods, for handling cases of suspected or
2 known child abuse and neglect, that are in compliance
3 with applicable Federal, State, or tribal law.”.

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108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1940

[Report No. 108-208]

A BILL

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

NOVEMBER 24, 2003

Read twice and placed on the calendar