

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 1086

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## AN ACT

To reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development  
Block Grant Act of 1990, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Child Care and Devel-  
3 opment Block Grant Act of 2014”.

4 **SEC. 2. SHORT TITLE AND PURPOSES.**

5 Section 658A of the Child Care and Development  
6 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9801 note) is amend-  
7 ed to read as follows:

8 **“SEC. 658A. SHORT TITLE AND PURPOSES.**

9 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This subchapter may be cited  
10 as the ‘Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of  
11 1990’.

12 “(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this subchapter  
13 are—

14 “(1) to allow each State maximum flexibility in  
15 developing child care programs and policies that best  
16 suit the needs of children and parents within that  
17 State;

18 “(2) to promote parental choice to empower  
19 working parents to make their own decisions regard-  
20 ing the child care that best suits their family’s  
21 needs;

22 “(3) to assist States in providing high-quality  
23 child care services to parents trying to achieve inde-  
24 pendence from public assistance;

25 “(4) to assist States in improving the overall  
26 quality of child care services and programs by imple-

1       menting the health, safety, licensing, training, and  
2       oversight standards established in this subchapter  
3       and in State law (including regulations);

4               “(5) to improve school readiness by having chil-  
5       dren, families, and child care providers engage in ac-  
6       tivities, in child care settings, that are develop-  
7       mentally appropriate and age-appropriate for the  
8       children and that promote children’s language and  
9       literacy and mathematics skills, social and emotional  
10      development, physical health and development, and  
11      approaches to learning;

12              “(6) to encourage States to provide consumer  
13      education information to help parents make in-  
14      formed choices about child care services and to pro-  
15      mote involvement by parents and family members in  
16      the education of their children in child care settings;

17              “(7) to increase the number and percentage of  
18      low-income children in high-quality child care set-  
19      tings; and

20              “(8) to improve the coordination and delivery of  
21      early childhood education and care (including child  
22      care).”.

23 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

24       Section 658B of the Child Care and Development  
25      Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858) is amended

1 by striking “subchapter” and all that follows, and insert-  
2 ing “subchapter, such sums as may be necessary for each  
3 of fiscal years 2015 through 2020.”.

4 **SEC. 4. LEAD AGENCY.**

5 (a) DESIGNATION.—Section 658D(a) of the Child  
6 Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42  
7 U.S.C. 9858b(a)) is amended—

8 (1) by striking “chief executive officer” and in-  
9 serting “Governor”; and

10 (2) by striking “designate” and all that follows  
11 and inserting “designate an agency (which may be  
12 an appropriate collaborative agency), or establish a  
13 joint interagency office, that complies with the re-  
14 quirements of subsection (b) to serve as the lead  
15 agency for the State under this subchapter.”.

16 (b) COLLABORATION WITH TRIBES.—Section  
17 658D(b)(1) of the Child Care and Development Block  
18 Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858b(b)(1)) is amended—

19 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” at  
20 the end;

21 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period  
22 and inserting “; and”; and

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

24 “(E) at the option of an Indian tribe or  
25 tribal organization in the State, collaborate and

1 coordinate with such Indian tribe or tribal orga-  
2 nization in the development of the State plan.”.

3 **SEC. 5. APPLICATION AND PLAN.**

4 (a) PERIOD.—Section 658E(b) of the Child Care and  
5 Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
6 9858c(b)) is amended, by striking “2-year” and inserting  
7 “3-year”.

8 (b) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—Section 658E(c)  
9 of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of  
10 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858c(c)) is amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or estab-  
12 lished” after “designated”;

13 (2) in paragraph (2)—

14 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting a  
15 comma after “care of such providers”;

16 (B) by striking subparagraphs (D) through  
17 (H); and

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

19 “(D) MONITORING AND INSPECTION RE-  
20 PORTS.—The plan shall include a certification  
21 that the State, not later than 1 year after the  
22 State has in effect the policies and practices de-  
23 scribed in subparagraph (K)(i), will make public  
24 by electronic means, in a consumer-friendly and  
25 easily accessible format, organized by provider,

1 the results of monitoring and inspection re-  
2 ports, including those due to major substan-  
3 tiated complaints about failure to comply with  
4 this subchapter and State child care policies, as  
5 well as the number of deaths, serious injuries,  
6 and instances of substantiated child abuse that  
7 occurred in child care settings each year, for el-  
8 igible child care providers within the State. The  
9 results shall also include information on the  
10 date of such an inspection and, where applica-  
11 ble, information on corrective action taken.

12 “(E) CONSUMER EDUCATION INFORMA-  
13 TION.—The plan shall include a certification  
14 that the State will collect and disseminate  
15 (which dissemination may be done, except as  
16 otherwise specified in this subparagraph,  
17 through resource and referral organizations or  
18 other means as determined by the State) to  
19 parents of eligible children and the general pub-  
20 lic—

21 “(i) information that will promote in-  
22 formed child care choices and that con-  
23 cerns—

24 “(I) the availability of child care  
25 services provided through programs

1 authorized under this subchapter and,  
2 if feasible, other child care services  
3 and other programs provided in the  
4 State for which the family may be eli-  
5 gible;

6 “(II) if available, information  
7 about the quality of providers, includ-  
8 ing information from a Quality Rating  
9 and Improvement System;

10 “(III) information, made avail-  
11 able through a State website, describ-  
12 ing the State process for licensing  
13 child care providers, the State proc-  
14 esses for conducting background  
15 checks, and monitoring and inspec-  
16 tions, of child care providers, and the  
17 offenses that prevent individuals and  
18 entities from serving as child care  
19 providers in the State;

20 “(IV) the availability of assist-  
21 ance to obtain child care services;

22 “(V) other programs for which  
23 families that receive child care serv-  
24 ices for which financial assistance is  
25 provided in accordance with this sub-

1 chapter may be eligible, including the  
2 program of block grants to States for  
3 temporary assistance for needy fami-  
4 lies established under part A of title  
5 IV of the Social Security Act (42  
6 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), Head Start and  
7 Early Head Start programs carried  
8 out under the Head Start Act (42  
9 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), the program  
10 carried out under the Low-Income  
11 Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981  
12 (42 U.S.C. 8621 et seq.), the supple-  
13 mental nutrition assistance program  
14 established under the Food and Nutri-  
15 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et  
16 seq.), the special supplemental nutri-  
17 tion program for women, infants, and  
18 children established under section 17  
19 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966  
20 (42 U.S.C. 1786), the child and adult  
21 care food program established under  
22 section 17 of the Richard B. Russell  
23 National School Lunch Act (42  
24 U.S.C. 1766), and the Medicaid and  
25 State children’s health insurance pro-



1                   grams under titles XIX and XXI of  
2                   the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
3                   1396 et seq., 1397aa et seq.);

4                   “(VI) programs carried out  
5                   under section 619 and part C of the  
6                   Individuals with Disabilities Edu-  
7                   cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et  
8                   seq.); and

9                   “(VII) research and best prac-  
10                  tices concerning children’s develop-  
11                  ment, including language and cog-  
12                  nitive development, development of  
13                  early language and literacy and math-  
14                  ematics skills, social and emotional  
15                  development, meaningful parent and  
16                  family engagement, and physical  
17                  health and development (particularly  
18                  healthy eating and physical activity);

19                  “(ii) information on developmental  
20                  screenings, including—

21                  “(I) information on existing (as  
22                  of the date of submission of the appli-  
23                  cation containing the plan) resources  
24                  and services the State can deploy, in-  
25                  cluding the coordinated use of the

1 Early and Periodic Screening, Diag-  
2 nosis, and Treatment program under  
3 the Medicaid program carried out  
4 under title XIX of the Social Security  
5 Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) and de-  
6 velopmental screening services avail-  
7 able under section 619 and part C of  
8 the Individuals with Disabilities Edu-  
9 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et  
10 seq.), in conducting developmental  
11 screenings and providing referrals to  
12 services, when appropriate, for chil-  
13 dren who receive assistance under this  
14 subchapter; and

15 “(II) a description of how a fam-  
16 ily or eligible child care provider may  
17 utilize the resources and services de-  
18 scribed in subelause (I) to obtain de-  
19 velopmental screenings for children  
20 who receive assistance under this sub-  
21 chapter who may be at risk for cog-  
22 nitive or other developmental delays,  
23 which may include social, emotional,  
24 physical, or linguistic delays; and

1           “(iii) information, for parents receiv-  
2           ing assistance under the program of block  
3           grants to States for temporary assistance  
4           for needy families under part A of title IV  
5           of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601  
6           et seq.) and low-income parents, about eli-  
7           gibility for assistance provided in accord-  
8           ance with this subchapter.

9           “(F) COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LICENSING  
10          REQUIREMENTS.—

11           “(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall in-  
12           clude a certification that the State involved  
13           has in effect licensing requirements appli-  
14           cable to child care services provided within  
15           the State, and provide a detailed descrip-  
16           tion of such requirements and of how such  
17           requirements are effectively enforced.

18           “(ii) LICENSE EXEMPTION.—If the  
19           State uses funding received under this sub-  
20           chapter to support a child care provider  
21           that is exempt from the corresponding li-  
22           censing requirements described in clause  
23           (i), the plan shall include a description  
24           stating why such licensing exemption does  
25           not endanger the health, safety, or develop-

1           ment of children who receive services from  
2           child care providers who are exempt from  
3           such requirements.

4           “(iii) REQUESTS FOR RELIEF.—As de-  
5           scribed in section 658I(d), a State may re-  
6           quest relief from a provision of Federal law  
7           other than this subchapter that might con-  
8           flict with a requirement of this subchapter,  
9           including a licensing requirement.

10          “(G) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—

11           “(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall de-  
12           scribe the training requirements that are  
13           in effect within the State that are designed  
14           to enable child care providers to promote  
15           the social, emotional, physical, and cog-  
16           nitive development of children and that are  
17           applicable to child care providers that pro-  
18           vide services for which assistance is pro-  
19           vided in accordance with this subchapter in  
20           the State.

21           “(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall  
22           provide an assurance that such training re-  
23           quirements—

24                   “(I) provide a set of workforce  
25                   and competency standards for child

1 care providers that provide services  
2 described in clause (i);

3 “(II) are developed in consulta-  
4 tion with the State Advisory Council  
5 on Early Childhood Education and  
6 Care (designated or established pursu-  
7 ant to section 642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the  
8 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.  
9 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)));

10 “(III) include an evidence-based  
11 training framework that is designed to  
12 promote children’s learning and devel-  
13 opment and school readiness and to  
14 improve child outcomes, including  
15 school readiness and early language  
16 and literacy development;

17 “(IV) incorporate knowledge and  
18 application of the State’s early learn-  
19 ing and developmental guidelines  
20 (where applicable), and the State’s  
21 child development and health stand-  
22 ards; and

23 “(V) to the extent practicable,  
24 are appropriate for a population of  
25 children that includes—

1           “(aa) different age groups  
2           (such as infants, toddlers, and  
3           preschoolers);

4           “(bb) English learners;

5           “(cc) children with disabili-  
6           ties; and

7           “(dd) Native Americans, in-  
8           cluding Indians, as the term is  
9           defined in section 4 of the Indian  
10          Self-Determination and Edu-  
11          cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.  
12          450b) (including Alaska Natives  
13          within the meaning of that term),  
14          and Native Hawaiians (as de-  
15          fined in section 7207 of the Ele-  
16          mentary and Secondary Edu-  
17          cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
18          7517)).

19           “(iii) PROGRESSION OF PROFES-  
20          SIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—In developing the  
21          requirements, the State shall develop a  
22          statewide progression of professional devel-  
23          opment designed to improve the skills and  
24          knowledge of the workforce—

1                   “(I) which may include the acqui-  
2                   sition of course credit in postsec-  
3                   ondary education or of a credential,  
4                   aligned with the framework; and

5                   “(II) which shall be accessible to  
6                   providers supported through Indian  
7                   tribes or tribal organizations that re-  
8                   ceive assistance under this sub-  
9                   chapter.

10                  “(iv) ALIGNMENT.—The State shall  
11                  engage the State Advisory Council on  
12                  Early Childhood Education and Care, and  
13                  may engage institutions of higher edu-  
14                  cation (as defined in section 102 of the  
15                  Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
16                  1002)), and other training providers in  
17                  aligning training opportunities with the  
18                  State’s training framework.

19                  “(v) CREDENTIALS.—The Secretary  
20                  shall not require an individual or entity  
21                  that provides child care services for which  
22                  assistance is provided in accordance with  
23                  this subchapter to acquire a credential to  
24                  provide such services. Nothing in this sec-

1           tion shall be construed to prohibit a State  
2           from requiring a credential.

3           “(H) CHILD-TO-PROVIDER RATIO STAND-  
4           ARDS.—

5                   “(i) STANDARDS.—The plan shall de-  
6           scribe child care standards, for child care  
7           for which assistance is made available in  
8           accordance with this subchapter, appro-  
9           priate to the type of child care setting in-  
10          volved, that address—

11                           “(I) group size limits for specific  
12                           age populations;

13                           “(II) the appropriate ratio be-  
14                           tween the number of children and the  
15                           number of providers, in terms of the  
16                           age of the children in child care, as  
17                           determined by the State; and

18                           “(III) required qualifications for  
19                           such providers.

20                   “(ii) CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary  
21           may offer guidance to States on child-to-  
22           provider ratios described in clause (i) ac-  
23           cording to setting and age group but shall  
24           not require that States maintain specific



1 child-to-provider ratios for providers who  
2 receive assistance under this subchapter.

3 “(I) HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIRE-  
4 MENTS.—The plan shall include a certification  
5 that there are in effect within the State, under  
6 State or local law, requirements designed to  
7 protect the health and safety of children that  
8 are applicable to child care providers that pro-  
9 vide services for which assistance is made avail-  
10 able in accordance with this subchapter. Such  
11 requirements—

12 “(i) shall relate to matters including  
13 health and safety topics (including preven-  
14 tion of shaken baby syndrome and abusive  
15 head trauma) consisting of—

16 “(I) the prevention and control of  
17 infectious diseases (including immuni-  
18 zation) and the establishment of a  
19 grace period that allows homeless chil-  
20 dren and children in foster care to re-  
21 ceive services under this subchapter  
22 while their families (including foster  
23 families) are taking any necessary ac-  
24 tion to comply with immunization and  
25 other health and safety requirements;

1                   “(II) handwashing and universal  
2 health precautions;

3                   “(III) the administration of  
4 medication, consistent with standards  
5 for parental consent;

6                   “(IV) the prevention of and re-  
7 sponse to emergencies due to food and  
8 other allergic reactions;

9                   “(V) prevention of sudden infant  
10 death syndrome and use of safe sleep-  
11 ing practices;

12                   “(VI) sanitary methods of food  
13 handling;

14                   “(VII) building and physical  
15 premises safety;

16                   “(VIII) emergency preparedness  
17 and response planning for emer-  
18 gencies resulting from a natural dis-  
19 aster, or a man-caused event (such as  
20 violence at a child care facility), with-  
21 in the meaning of those terms under  
22 section 602(a)(1) of the Robert T.  
23 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-  
24 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
25 5195a(a)(1));

1           “(IX) the handling and storage  
2           of hazardous materials and the appro-  
3           priate disposal of biocontaminants;

4           “(X) identification of and protec-  
5           tion from hazards that can cause bod-  
6           ily injury such as electrical hazards,  
7           bodies of water, and vehicular traffic;

8           “(XI) for providers that offer  
9           transportation, if applicable, appro-  
10          priate precautions in transporting  
11          children;

12          “(XII) first aid and cardiopulmo-  
13          nary resuscitation; and

14          “(XIII) minimum health and  
15          safety training, to be completed pre-  
16          service or during an orientation pe-  
17          riod, appropriate to the provider set-  
18          ting involved that addresses each of  
19          the requirements relating to matters  
20          described in subclauses (I) through  
21          (XII); and

22          “(ii) may include requirements relat-  
23          ing to nutrition, access to physical activity,  
24          or any other subject area determined by  
25          the State to be necessary to promote child

1           development or to protect children’s health  
2           and safety.

3           “(J) COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND LOCAL  
4 HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.—The  
5 plan shall include a certification that proce-  
6 dures are in effect to ensure that child care  
7 providers within the State, that provide services  
8 for which assistance is made available in ac-  
9 cordance with this subchapter, comply with all  
10 applicable State and local health and safety re-  
11 quirements as described in subparagraph (I).

12           “(K) ENFORCEMENT OF LICENSING AND  
13 OTHER REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.—

14           “(i) CERTIFICATION.—The plan shall  
15 include a certification that the State, not  
16 later than 2 years after the date of enact-  
17 ment of the Child Care and Development  
18 Block Grant Act of 2014, shall have in ef-  
19 fect policies and practices, applicable to li-  
20 censing or regulating child care providers  
21 that provide services for which assistance  
22 is made available in accordance with this  
23 subchapter and the facilities of those pro-  
24 viders, that—

1           “(I) ensure that individuals who  
2           are hired as licensing inspectors in the  
3           State are qualified to inspect those  
4           child care providers and facilities and  
5           have received training in related  
6           health and safety requirements, child  
7           development, child abuse prevention  
8           and detection, program management,  
9           and relevant law enforcement;

10           “(II) require licensing inspectors  
11           (or qualified inspectors designated by  
12           the lead agency) of those child care  
13           providers and facilities to perform in-  
14           spections, with—

15           “(aa) not less than 1  
16           prelicensure inspection for com-  
17           pliance with health, safety, and  
18           fire standards, of each such child  
19           care provider and facility in the  
20           State; and

21           “(bb) not less than annually,  
22           an inspection (which shall be un-  
23           announced) of each such child  
24           care provider and facility in the  
25           State for compliance with all

1 child care licensing standards,  
2 which shall include an inspection  
3 for compliance with health, safe-  
4 ty, and fire standards (although  
5 inspectors may or may not in-  
6 spect for compliance with all 3  
7 standards at the same time); and  
8 “(III) require the ratio of licens-  
9 ing inspectors to such child care pro-  
10 viders and facilities in the State to—

11 “(aa) be maintained at a  
12 level sufficient to enable the  
13 State to conduct inspections of  
14 such child care providers and fa-  
15 cilities on a timely basis in ac-  
16 cordance with Federal and State  
17 law; and

18 “(bb) be consistent with re-  
19 search findings and best prac-  
20 tices.

21 “(ii) CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary  
22 may offer guidance to a State, if requested  
23 by the State, on a research-based min-  
24 imum standard regarding ratios described  
25 in clause (i)(III) and provide technical as-

1           sistance to the State on meeting the min-  
2           imum standard within a reasonable time  
3           period, but shall not prescribe a particular  
4           ratio.

5           “(L) COMPLIANCE WITH CHILD ABUSE RE-  
6           PORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall in-  
7           clude a certification that child care providers  
8           within the State will comply with the child  
9           abuse reporting requirements of section  
10          106(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Child Abuse Prevention  
11          and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.  
12          5106a(b)(2)(B)(i)).

13          “(M) MEETING THE NEEDS OF CERTAIN  
14          POPULATIONS.—The plan shall describe how  
15          the State will develop and implement strategies  
16          (which may include the provision of compensa-  
17          tion at higher payment rates and bonuses to  
18          child care providers, the provision of direct con-  
19          tracts or grants to community-based organiza-  
20          tions, offering child care certificates to parents,  
21          or other means determined by the State) to in-  
22          crease the supply and improve the quality of  
23          child care for—

24                   “(i) children in underserved areas;

25                   “(ii) infants and toddlers;

1           “(iii) children with disabilities, as de-  
2 fined by the State; and

3           “(iv) children who receive care during  
4 nontraditional hours.

5           “(N) PROTECTION FOR WORKING PAR-  
6 ENTS.—

7           “(i) MINIMUM PERIOD.—

8                   “(I) 12-MONTH PERIOD.—The  
9 plan shall demonstrate that each child  
10 who receives assistance under this  
11 subchapter in the State will be consid-  
12 ered to meet all eligibility require-  
13 ments for such assistance and will re-  
14 ceive such assistance, for not less than  
15 12 months before the State redeter-  
16 mines the eligibility of the child under  
17 this subchapter, regardless of a tem-  
18 porary change in the ongoing status  
19 of the child’s parent as working or at-  
20 tending a job training or educational  
21 program or a change in family income  
22 for the child’s family, if that family  
23 income does not exceed 85 percent of  
24 the State median income for a family  
25 of the same size.



1                   “(II) FLUCTUATIONS IN EARN-  
2                   INGS.—The plan shall demonstrate  
3                   how the State’s processes for initial  
4                   determination and redetermination of  
5                   such eligibility take into account ir-  
6                   regular fluctuations in earnings.

7                   “(ii) REDETERMINATION PROCESS.—  
8                   The plan shall describe the procedures and  
9                   policies that are in place to ensure that  
10                  working parents (especially parents in fam-  
11                  ilies receiving assistance under the pro-  
12                  gram of block grants to States for tem-  
13                  porary assistance for needy families under  
14                  part A of title IV of the Social Security  
15                  Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)) are not re-  
16                  quired to unduly disrupt their employment  
17                  in order to comply with the State’s require-  
18                  ments for redetermination of eligibility for  
19                  assistance provided in accordance with this  
20                  subchapter.

21                  “(iii) PERIOD BEFORE TERMI-  
22                  NATION.—At the option of the State, the  
23                  plan shall demonstrate that the State will  
24                  not terminate assistance provided to carry  
25                  out this subchapter based on a factor con-

1           sisting of a parent’s loss of work or ces-  
2           sation of attendance at a job training or  
3           educational program for which the family  
4           was receiving the assistance, without con-  
5           tinuing the assistance for a reasonable pe-  
6           riod of time, of not less than 3 months,  
7           after such loss or cessation in order for the  
8           parent to engage in a job search and re-  
9           sume work, or resume attendance at a job  
10          training or educational program, as soon  
11          as possible.

12           “(iv) GRADUATED PHASEOUT OF  
13          CARE.—The plan shall describe the policies  
14          and procedures that are in place to allow  
15          for provision of continued assistance to  
16          carry out this subchapter, at the beginning  
17          of a new eligibility period under clause  
18          (i)(I), for children of parents who are  
19          working or attending a job training or edu-  
20          cational program and whose family income  
21          exceeds the State’s income limit to initially  
22          qualify for such assistance, if the family  
23          income for the family involved does not ex-  
24          ceed 85 percent of the State median in-  
25          come for a family of the same size.

1           “(O) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PRO-  
2 GRAMS.—

3           “(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall de-  
4 scribe how the State, in order to expand  
5 accessibility and continuity of quality early  
6 childhood education and care, and assist  
7 children enrolled in prekindergarten, Early  
8 Head Start, or Head Start programs to re-  
9 ceive full-day services, will efficiently co-  
10 ordinate the services supported to carry  
11 out this subchapter with—

12           “(I) programs carried out under  
13 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831  
14 et seq.), including the Early Head  
15 Start programs carried out under sec-  
16 tion 645A of that Act (42 U.S.C.  
17 9840a);

18           “(II) programs carried out under  
19 part A of title I, and part B of title  
20 IV, of the Elementary and Secondary  
21 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
22 6311 et seq., 7171 et seq.);

23           “(III) programs carried out  
24 under section 619 and part C of the  
25 Individuals with Disabilities Edu-

1 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et  
2 seq.);

3 “(IV) the maternal, infant, and  
4 early childhood home visiting pro-  
5 grams authorized under section 511  
6 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
7 711), as added by section 2951 of the  
8 Patient Protection and Affordable  
9 Care Act (Public Law 111–148);

10 “(V) State, Indian tribe or tribal  
11 organization, and locally funded early  
12 childhood education and care pro-  
13 grams;

14 “(VI) programs serving homeless  
15 children and services of local edu-  
16 cational agency liaisons for homeless  
17 children and youths designated under  
18 subsection (g)(1)(J)(ii) of section 722  
19 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless As-  
20 sistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
21 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii));

22 “(VII) State agencies and pro-  
23 grams serving children in foster care  
24 and the foster families of such chil-  
25 dren; and

1                   “(VIII) other Federal programs  
2                   supporting early childhood education  
3                   and care activities, and, where appli-  
4                   cable, child care programs funded  
5                   through State veterans affairs offices.

6                   “(ii) OPTIONAL USE OF COMBINED  
7                   FUNDS.—If the State elects to combine  
8                   funding for the services supported to carry  
9                   out this subchapter with funding for any  
10                  program described in subclauses (I)  
11                  through (VII) of clause (i), the plan shall  
12                  describe how the State will combine the  
13                  multiple sets of funding and use the com-  
14                  bined funding.

15                  “(iii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—  
16                  Nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to  
17                  affect the priority of children described in  
18                  clause (i) to receive full-day prekind-  
19                  ergarten or Head Start program services.

20                  “(P) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—  
21                  The plan shall demonstrate how the State en-  
22                  courages partnerships among State agencies,  
23                  other public agencies, Indian tribes and tribal  
24                  organizations, and private entities to leverage  
25                  existing service delivery systems (as of the date

1 of the submission of the application containing  
2 the plan) for early childhood education and care  
3 and to increase the supply and quality of child  
4 care services for children who are less than 13  
5 years of age, such as by implementing voluntary  
6 shared services alliance models.

7 “(Q) PRIORITY FOR LOW-INCOME POPU-  
8 LATIONS.—The plan shall describe the process  
9 the State proposes to use, with respect to in-  
10 vestments made to increase access to programs  
11 providing high-quality early childhood education  
12 and care, to give priority for those investments  
13 to children of families in areas that have signifi-  
14 cant concentrations of poverty and unemploy-  
15 ment and that do not have such programs.

16 “(R) CONSULTATION.—The plan shall in-  
17 clude a certification that the State has devel-  
18 oped the plan in consultation with the State  
19 Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education  
20 and Care designated or established pursuant to  
21 section 642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act  
22 (42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)).

23 “(S) PAYMENT PRACTICES.—The plan  
24 shall include a certification that the payment  
25 practices of child care providers in the State

1 that serve children who receive assistance under  
2 this subchapter reflect generally accepted pay-  
3 ment practices of child care providers in the  
4 State that serve children who do not receive as-  
5 sistance under this subchapter, so as to provide  
6 stability of funding and encourage more child  
7 care providers to serve children who receive as-  
8 sistance under this subchapter.

9 “(T) EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOP-  
10 MENTAL GUIDELINES.—

11 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall in-  
12 clude an assurance that the State will de-  
13 velop or implement early learning and de-  
14 velopmental guidelines that are appropriate  
15 for children from birth through entry into  
16 kindergarten, describing what such chil-  
17 dren should know and be able to do, and  
18 covering the essential domains of early  
19 childhood education and care and early  
20 childhood development for use statewide by  
21 child care providers. Such child care pro-  
22 viders shall—

23 “(I) be licensed or regulated  
24 under State law; and

1                   “(II) not be a relative of all chil-  
2                   dren for whom the provider provides  
3                   child care services.

4                   “(ii) ALIGNMENT.—The guidelines  
5                   shall be research-based, developmentally  
6                   appropriate, and aligned with State stand-  
7                   ards for education in kindergarten through  
8                   grade 3.

9                   “(iii) PROHIBITION ON USE OF  
10                  FUNDS.—The plan shall include an assur-  
11                  ance that funds received by the State to  
12                  carry out this subchapter will not be used  
13                  to develop or implement an assessment for  
14                  children that—

15                         “(I) will be the sole basis for a  
16                         child care provider being determined  
17                         to be ineligible to participate in the  
18                         program carried out under this sub-  
19                         chapter;

20                         “(II) will be used as the primary  
21                         or sole basis to provide a reward or  
22                         sanction for an individual provider;

23                         “(III) will be used as the primary  
24                         or sole method for assessing program  
25                         effectiveness; or



1           “(IV) will be used to deny eligi-  
2           bility to participate in the program  
3           carried out under this subchapter.

4           “(iv) EXCEPTIONS.—Nothing in this  
5           subchapter shall preclude the State from  
6           using a single assessment (if appropriate)  
7           for children for—

8                   “(I) supporting learning or im-  
9                   proving a classroom environment;

10                   “(II) targeting professional devel-  
11                   opment to a provider;

12                   “(III) determining the need for  
13                   health, mental health, disability, de-  
14                   velopmental delay, or family support  
15                   services;

16                   “(IV) obtaining information for  
17                   the quality improvement process at  
18                   the State level; or

19                   “(V) conducting a program eval-  
20                   uation for the purposes of providing  
21                   program improvement and parent in-  
22                   formation.

23           “(v) NO FEDERAL CONTROL.—Noth-  
24           ing in this section shall be construed to au-

1 authorize an officer or employee of the Fed-  
2 eral Government to—

3 “(I) mandate, direct, or control a  
4 State’s early learning and develop-  
5 mental guidelines, developed in ac-  
6 cordance with this section;

7 “(II) establish any criterion that  
8 specifies, defines, or prescribes the  
9 standards or measures that a State  
10 uses to establish, implement, or im-  
11 prove—

12 “(aa) early learning and de-  
13 velopmental guidelines, or early  
14 learning standards, assessments,  
15 or accountability systems; or

16 “(bb) alignment of early  
17 learning and developmental  
18 guidelines with State standards  
19 for education in kindergarten  
20 through grade 3; or

21 “(III) require a State to submit  
22 such standards or measures for re-  
23 view.

24 “(U) DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.—

1           “(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall  
2 demonstrate the manner in which the  
3 State will address the needs of children in  
4 child care services provided through pro-  
5 grams authorized under this subchapter,  
6 including the need for safe child care, dur-  
7 ing the period before, during, and after a  
8 state of emergency declared by the Gov-  
9 ernor or a major disaster or emergency (as  
10 such terms are defined in section 102 of  
11 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
12 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
13 5122)).

14           “(ii) STATEWIDE CHILD CARE DIS-  
15 ASTER PLAN.—Such plan shall include a  
16 statewide child care disaster plan for co-  
17 ordination of activities and collaboration,  
18 in the event of an emergency or disaster  
19 described in clause (i), among the State  
20 agency with jurisdiction over human serv-  
21 ices, the agency with jurisdiction over  
22 State emergency planning, the State lead  
23 agency, the State agency with jurisdiction  
24 over licensing of child care providers, the  
25 local resource and referral organizations,

1 the State resource and referral system, and  
2 the State Advisory Council on Early Child-  
3 hood Education and Care as provided for  
4 under section 642B(b) of the Head Start  
5 Act (42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)).

6 “(iii) DISASTER PLAN COMPO-  
7 NENTS.—The components of the disaster  
8 plan, for such an emergency or disaster,  
9 shall include—

10 “(I) guidelines for the continu-  
11 ation of child care services in the pe-  
12 riod following the emergency or dis-  
13 aster, including the provision of emer-  
14 gency and temporary child care serv-  
15 ices, and temporary operating stand-  
16 ards for child care providers during  
17 that period;

18 “(II) evacuation, relocation, shel-  
19 ter-in-place, and lock-down proce-  
20 dures, and procedures for communica-  
21 tion and reunification with families,  
22 continuity of operations, and accom-  
23 modation of infants and toddlers, chil-  
24 dren with disabilities, and children  
25 with chronic medical conditions; and

1                   “(III) procedures for staff and  
2                   volunteer training and practice  
3                   drills.”.

4                   (3) in paragraph (3)—

5                   (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “as  
6                   required under” and inserting “in accordance  
7                   with”;

8                   (B) in subparagraph (B)—

9                   (i) by striking “The State” and in-  
10                  serting the following:

11                  “(i) IN GENERAL.—The State”;

12                  (ii) by striking “and any other activity  
13                  that the State deems appropriate to realize  
14                  any of the goals specified in paragraphs  
15                  (2) through (5) of section 658A(b)” and  
16                  inserting “activities that improve access to  
17                  child care services, including use of proce-  
18                  dures to permit immediate enrollment  
19                  (after the initial eligibility determination  
20                  and after a child is determined to be eligi-  
21                  ble) of homeless children while required  
22                  documentation is obtained, training and  
23                  technical assistance on identifying and  
24                  serving homeless children and their fami-  
25                  lies, and specific outreach to homeless fam-

1 ilies, and any other activity that the State  
2 determines to be appropriate to meet the  
3 purposes of this subchapter (which may in-  
4 clude an activity described in clause (ii))”;  
5 and

6 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 “(ii) REPORT BY ASSISTANT SEC-  
9 RETARY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.—

10 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later  
11 than September 30 of the first full fis-  
12 cal year after the date of enactment of  
13 the Child Care and Development  
14 Block Grant Act of 2014, and Sep-  
15 tember 30 of each fiscal year there-  
16 after, the Secretary (acting through  
17 the Assistant Secretary for Children  
18 and Families of the Department of  
19 Health and Human Services) shall  
20 prepare a report that contains a de-  
21 termination about whether each State  
22 uses amounts provided to such State  
23 for the fiscal year involved under this  
24 subchapter in accordance with the pri-

1 ority for services described in clause  
2 (i).

3 “(II) PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLI-  
4 ANCE.—For any fiscal year that the  
5 report of the Secretary described in  
6 subclause (I) indicates that a State  
7 has failed to give priority for services  
8 in accordance with clause (i), the Sec-  
9 retary shall—

10 “(aa) inform the State that  
11 the State has until the date that  
12 is 6 months after the Secretary  
13 has issued such report to fully  
14 comply with clause (i);

15 “(bb) provide the State an  
16 opportunity to modify the State  
17 plan of such State, to make the  
18 plan consistent with the require-  
19 ments of clause (i), and resubmit  
20 such State plan to the Secretary  
21 not later than the date described  
22 in item (aa); and

23 “(cc) if the State does not  
24 fully comply with clause (i) and  
25 item (bb), by the date described

1 in item (aa), withhold 5 percent  
2 of the funds that would otherwise  
3 be allocated to that State in ac-  
4 cordance with this subchapter for  
5 the first full fiscal year after that  
6 date.

7 “(III) WAIVER FOR EXTRAOR-  
8 DINARY CIRCUMSTANCES.—Notwith-  
9 standing subclause (II) the Secretary  
10 may grant a waiver to a State for one  
11 year to the penalty applied in sub-  
12 clause (II) if the Secretary determines  
13 there are extraordinary circumstances,  
14 such as a natural disaster, that pre-  
15 vent the State from complying with  
16 clause (i). If the Secretary does grant  
17 a waiver to a State under this section,  
18 the Secretary shall, within 30 days of  
19 granting such waiver, submit a report  
20 to the appropriate congressional com-  
21 mittees on the circumstances of the  
22 waiver including the stated reason  
23 from the State on the need for a waiv-  
24 er, the expected impact of the waiver  
25 on children served under this pro-



1                   gram, and any such other relevant in-  
2                   formation the Secretary deems nec-  
3                   essary.

4                   “(iii) CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND  
5                   REFERRAL SYSTEM.—

6                   “(I) IN GENERAL.—A State may  
7                   use amounts described in clause (i) to  
8                   establish or support a system of local  
9                   or regional child care resource and re-  
10                  ferral organizations that is coordi-  
11                  nated, to the extent determined appro-  
12                  priate by the State, by a statewide  
13                  public or private nonprofit, commu-  
14                  nity-based or regionally based, lead  
15                  child care resource and referral orga-  
16                  nization.

17                  “(II) LOCAL OR REGIONAL ORGA-  
18                  NIZATIONS.—The local or regional  
19                  child care resource and referral orga-  
20                  nizations supported as described in  
21                  subclause (I) shall—

22                  “(aa) provide parents in the  
23                  State with consumer education  
24                  information referred to in para-  
25                  graph (2)(E) (except as otherwise

1 provided in that paragraph), con-  
2 cerning the full range of child  
3 care options, analyzed by pro-  
4 vider, including child care pro-  
5 vided during nontraditional hours  
6 and through emergency child  
7 care centers, in their political  
8 subdivisions or regions;

9 “(bb) to the extent prac-  
10 ticable, work directly with fami-  
11 lies who receive assistance under  
12 this subchapter to offer the fami-  
13 lies support and assistance, using  
14 information described in item  
15 (aa), to make an informed deci-  
16 sion about which child care pro-  
17 viders they will use, in an effort  
18 to ensure that the families are  
19 enrolling their children in high-  
20 quality care;

21 “(cc) collect and analyze  
22 data on the coordination of serv-  
23 ices and supports, including serv-  
24 ices under section 619 and part  
25 C of the Individuals with Disabil-

1           ities Education Act (20 U.S.C.  
2           1419, 1431 et seq.), for children  
3           with disabilities (as defined in  
4           section 602 of such Act (20  
5           U.S.C. 1401));

6           “(dd) collect and analyze  
7           data on the supply of and de-  
8           mand for child care in political  
9           subdivisions or regions within the  
10          State and submit such data and  
11          analysis to the State;

12          “(ee) work to establish part-  
13          nerships with public agencies and  
14          private entities to increase the  
15          supply and quality of child care  
16          services in the State; and

17          “(ff) as appropriate, coordi-  
18          nate their activities with the ac-  
19          tivities of the State lead agency  
20          and local agencies that admin-  
21          ister funds made available in ac-  
22          cordance with this subchapter.”;

23          (C) in subparagraph (D)—

24                  (i) by striking “1997 through 2002”  
25                  and inserting “2015 through 2020”; and

1 (ii) by striking “families described in  
2 paragraph (2)(H)” and inserting “families  
3 with children described in clause (i), (ii),  
4 (iii), or (iv) of paragraph (2)(M)”; and  
5 (D) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(E) DIRECT SERVICES.—From amounts  
7 provided to a State for a fiscal year to carry  
8 out this subchapter, the State shall—

9 “(i) reserve the minimum amount re-  
10 quired to be reserved under section 658G,  
11 and the funds for costs described in sub-  
12 paragraph (C); and

13 “(ii) from the remainder, use not less  
14 than 70 percent to fund direct services  
15 (provided by the State) in accordance with  
16 paragraph (2)(A).”;

17 (4) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the  
18 following:

19 “(4) PAYMENT RATES.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The State plan shall  
21 certify that payment rates for the provision of  
22 child care services for which assistance is pro-  
23 vided in accordance with this subchapter are  
24 sufficient to ensure equal access for eligible  
25 children to child care services that are com-

1           parable to child care services in the State or  
2           substate area involved that are provided to chil-  
3           dren whose parents are not eligible to receive  
4           assistance under this subchapter or to receive  
5           child care assistance under any other Federal  
6           or State program and shall provide a summary  
7           of the facts relied on by the State to determine  
8           that such rates are sufficient to ensure such ac-  
9           cess.

10           “(B) SURVEY.—The State plan shall—

11           “(i) demonstrate that the State has,  
12           after consulting with the State Advisory  
13           Council on Early Childhood Education and  
14           Care designated or established in section  
15           642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act  
16           (42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)), local child  
17           care program administrators, local child  
18           care resource and referral agencies, and  
19           other appropriate entities, developed and  
20           conducted (not earlier than 2 years before  
21           the date of the submission of the applica-  
22           tion containing the State plan) a statis-  
23           tically valid and reliable survey of the mar-  
24           ket rates for child care services in the  
25           State (that reflects variations in the cost of

1 child care services by geographic area, type  
2 of provider, and age of child);

3 “(ii) demonstrate that the State pre-  
4 pared a detailed report containing the re-  
5 sults of the State market rates survey con-  
6 ducted pursuant to clause (i), and made  
7 the results of the survey widely available  
8 (not later than 30 days after the comple-  
9 tion of such survey) through periodic  
10 means, including posting the results on the  
11 Internet;

12 “(iii) describe how the State will set  
13 payment rates for child care services, for  
14 which assistance is provided in accordance  
15 with this subchapter—

16 “(I) in accordance with the re-  
17 sults of the market rates survey con-  
18 ducted pursuant to clause (i);

19 “(II) taking into consideration  
20 the cost of providing higher quality  
21 child care services than were provided  
22 under this subchapter before the date  
23 of enactment of the Child Care and  
24 Development Block Grant Act of  
25 2014; and

1                   “(III) without, to the extent  
2                   practicable, reducing the number of  
3                   families in the State receiving such  
4                   assistance to carry out this sub-  
5                   chapter, relative to the number of  
6                   such families on the date of enact-  
7                   ment of that Act; and

8                   “(iv) describe how the State will pro-  
9                   vide for timely payment for child care serv-  
10                  ices provided in accordance with this sub-  
11                  chapter.

12                  “(C) CONSTRUCTION.—

13                  “(i) NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—  
14                  Nothing in this paragraph shall be con-  
15                  strued to create a private right of action.

16                  “(ii) NO PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN  
17                  DIFFERENT RATES.—Nothing in this sub-  
18                  chapter shall be construed to prevent a  
19                  State from differentiating the payment  
20                  rates described in subparagraph (B)(iii) on  
21                  the basis of such factors as—

22                  “(I) geographic location of child  
23                  care providers (such as location in an  
24                  urban or rural area);





1 **“SEC. 658G. ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF**  
2 **CHILD CARE.**

3 “(a) RESERVATION.—

4 “(1) RESERVATION FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING  
5 TO THE QUALITY OF CHILD CARE SERVICES.—A  
6 State that receives funds to carry out this sub-  
7 chapter for a fiscal year referred to in paragraph (2)  
8 shall reserve and use a portion of such funds, in ac-  
9 cordance with paragraph (2), for activities provided  
10 directly, or through grants or contracts with local  
11 child care resource and referral organizations or  
12 other appropriate entities, that are designed to im-  
13 prove the quality of child care services and increase  
14 parental options for, and access to, high-quality  
15 child care, provided in accordance with this sub-  
16 chapter.

17 “(2) AMOUNT OF RESERVATIONS.—Such State  
18 shall reserve and use—

19 “(A) to carry out the activities described in  
20 paragraph (1), not less than—

21 “(i) 6 percent of the funds described  
22 in paragraph (1), for the first and second  
23 full fiscal years after the date of enactment  
24 of the Child Care and Development Block  
25 Grant Act of 2014;

1                   “(ii) 8 percent of such funds, for the  
2                   third and fourth full fiscal years after the  
3                   date of enactment; and

4                   “(iii) 10 percent of such funds, for  
5                   the fifth full fiscal year after the date of  
6                   enactment and each succeeding fiscal year;  
7                   and

8                   “(B) in addition to the funds reserved  
9                   under subparagraph (A), 3 percent of the funds  
10                  described in paragraph (1), for the first full fis-  
11                  cal year after the date of enactment and each  
12                  succeeding fiscal year, to carry out the activities  
13                  described in paragraph (1) and subsection  
14                  (b)(4), as such activities relate to the quality of  
15                  care for infants and toddlers.

16                  “(b) ACTIVITIES.—Funds reserved under subsection  
17 (a) shall be used to carry out not fewer than 2 of the  
18 following activities:

19                         “(1) Supporting the training, professional de-  
20                         velopment, and professional advancement of the  
21                         child care workforce through activities such as—

22                                 “(A) offering child care providers training  
23                                 and professional development that is intentional  
24                                 and sequential and leads to a higher level of  
25                                 skill or certification;

1           “(B) establishing or supporting programs  
2           designed to increase the retention and improve  
3           the competencies of child care providers, includ-  
4           ing wage incentive programs and initiatives that  
5           establish tiered payment rates for providers  
6           that meet or exceed child care services guide-  
7           lines, as defined by the State;

8           “(C) offering training, professional devel-  
9           opment, and educational opportunities for child  
10          care providers that relate to the use of develop-  
11          mentally appropriate and age-appropriate cur-  
12          ricula, and early childhood teaching strategies,  
13          that are scientifically based and aligned with  
14          the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive de-  
15          velopment of children, including offering spe-  
16          cialized training for child care providers who  
17          care for infants and toddlers, children who are  
18          English learners, and children with disabilities  
19          (as defined in section 602 of the Individuals  
20          with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.  
21          1401));

22          “(D) providing training concerning the  
23          State early learning and developmental guide-  
24          lines, where applicable, including training con-  
25          cerning early mathematics and early language

1 and literacy development and effective instruc-  
2 tional practices to support mathematics and  
3 language and literacy development in young  
4 children;

5 “(E) incorporating effective use of data to  
6 guide instruction and program improvement;

7 “(F) including effective behavior manage-  
8 ment strategies and training, including positive  
9 behavioral interventions and supports, that pro-  
10 mote positive social and emotional development  
11 and reduce challenge behaviors;

12 “(G) at the option of the State, incor-  
13 porating feedback from experts at the State’s  
14 institutions of higher education, as defined in  
15 section 102 of the Higher Education Act of  
16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002), and other early child-  
17 hood development experts and early childhood  
18 education and care experts;

19 “(H) providing training corresponding to  
20 the nutritional and physical activity needs of  
21 children to promote healthy development;

22 “(I) providing training or professional de-  
23 velopment for child care providers to serve and  
24 support children with disabilities;

1           “(J) providing training and outreach on  
2           engaging parents and families in culturally and  
3           linguistically appropriate ways to expand their  
4           knowledge, skills, and capacity to become mean-  
5           ingful partners in supporting their children’s  
6           learning and development;

7           “(K) providing training or professional de-  
8           velopment for child care providers regarding the  
9           early neurological development of children; and

10           “(L) connecting child care staff members  
11           of child care providers with available Federal  
12           and State financial aid, or other resources, that  
13           would assist child care staff members in pur-  
14           suing relevant postsecondary training.

15           “(2) Supporting the use of the early learning  
16           and developmental guidelines described in section  
17           658E(c)(2)(T) by—

18           “(A) developing and implementing the  
19           State’s early learning and developmental guide-  
20           lines; and

21           “(B) providing technical assistance to en-  
22           hance early learning for preschool and school-  
23           aged children in order to promote language and  
24           literacy skills, foster school readiness, and sup-  
25           port later school success.

1           “(3) Developing and implementing a tiered  
2 quality rating system for child care providers, which  
3 shall—

4           “(A) support and assess the quality of  
5 child care providers in the State;

6           “(B) build on licensing standards and  
7 other State regulatory standards for such pro-  
8 viders;

9           “(C) be designed to improve the quality of  
10 different types of child care providers;

11           “(D) describe the quality of early learning  
12 facilities;

13           “(E) build the capacity of State early  
14 childhood education and care programs and  
15 communities to promote parents’ and families’  
16 understanding of the State’s early childhood  
17 education and care system and the ratings of  
18 the programs in which the child is enrolled; and

19           “(F) provide, to the maximum extent prac-  
20 ticable, financial incentives and other supports  
21 designed to help child care providers achieve  
22 and sustain higher levels of quality.

23           “(4) Improving the supply and quality of child  
24 care programs and services for infants and toddlers  
25 through activities, which may include—

1           “(A) establishing or expanding neighbor-  
2           hood-based high-quality comprehensive family  
3           and child development centers, which may serve  
4           as resources to child care providers in order to  
5           improve the quality of early childhood education  
6           and care and early childhood development serv-  
7           ices provided to infants and toddlers from low-  
8           income families and to help eligible child care  
9           providers improve their capacity to offer high-  
10          quality care to infants and toddlers from low-  
11          income families;

12           “(B) establishing or expanding the oper-  
13          ation of community or neighborhood-based fam-  
14          ily child care networks;

15           “(C) supporting statewide networks of in-  
16          fant and toddler child care specialists, including  
17          specialists who have knowledge regarding infant  
18          and toddler development and curriculum and  
19          program implementation as well as the ability  
20          to coordinate services with early intervention  
21          specialists who provide services for infants and  
22          toddlers with disabilities under part C of the  
23          Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20  
24          U.S.C. 1431 et seq.);

1           “(D) carrying out initiatives to improve  
2 the quality of the infant and toddler child care  
3 workforce, such as providing relevant training,  
4 professional development, or mentoring oppor-  
5 tunities and linking such opportunities to career  
6 pathways, developing career pathways for pro-  
7 viders in such workforce, and improving the  
8 State credentialing of eligible providers caring  
9 for infants and toddlers;

10           “(E) if applicable, developing infant and  
11 toddler components within the State’s quality  
12 rating system described in paragraph (3) for  
13 child care providers for infants and toddlers, or  
14 the development of infant and toddler compo-  
15 nents in a State’s child care licensing regula-  
16 tions or early learning and developmental guide-  
17 lines;

18           “(F) improving the ability of parents to ac-  
19 cess information about high-quality infant and  
20 toddler care; and

21           “(G) carrying out other activities deter-  
22 mined by the State to improve the quality of in-  
23 fant and toddler care provided in the State, and  
24 for which there is evidence that the activities  
25 will lead to improved infant and toddler health



1           and safety, infant and toddler development, or  
2           infant and toddler well-being, including pro-  
3           viding training (including training in safe sleep  
4           practices, first aid, and cardiopulmonary resus-  
5           citation).

6           “(5) Promoting broad child care provider par-  
7           ticipation in the quality rating system described in  
8           paragraph (3).

9           “(6) Establishing or expanding a statewide sys-  
10          tem of child care resource and referral services.

11          “(7) Facilitating compliance with State require-  
12          ments for inspection, monitoring, training, and  
13          health and safety, and with State licensing stand-  
14          ards.

15          “(8) Evaluating and assessing the quality and  
16          effectiveness of child care programs and services of-  
17          fered in the State, including evaluating how such  
18          programs and services may improve the overall  
19          school readiness of young children.

20          “(9) Supporting child care providers in the pur-  
21          suit of accreditation by an established national ac-  
22          crediting body with demonstrated, valid, and reliable  
23          program standards of high quality.

24          “(10) Supporting State or local efforts to de-  
25          velop or adopt high-quality program standards relat-

1       ing to health, mental health, nutrition, physical ac-  
2       tivity, and physical development and providing re-  
3       sources to enable eligible child care providers to  
4       meet, exceed, or sustain success in meeting or ex-  
5       ceeding, such standards.

6               “(11) Carrying out other activities determined  
7       by the State to improve the quality of child care  
8       services provided in the State, and for which meas-  
9       urement of outcomes relating to improved provider  
10      preparedness, child safety, child well-being, or school  
11      readiness is possible.

12           “(c) CERTIFICATION.—Beginning with fiscal year  
13 2015, at the beginning of each fiscal year, the State shall  
14 annually submit to the Secretary a certification containing  
15 an assurance that the State was in compliance with sub-  
16 section (a) during the preceding fiscal year and a descrip-  
17 tion of how the State used funds received under this sub-  
18 chapter to comply with subsection (a) during that pre-  
19 ceding fiscal year.

20           “(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Each State re-  
21 ceiving funds under this subchapter shall prepare and sub-  
22 mit an annual report to the Secretary, which shall include  
23 information about—

24               “(1) the amount of funds that are reserved  
25      under subsection (a);

1           “(2) the activities carried out under this sec-  
2           tion; and

3           “(3) the measures that the State will use to  
4           evaluate the State’s progress in improving the qual-  
5           ity of child care programs and services in the State.

6           “(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall  
7           offer technical assistance, in accordance with section  
8           658I(a)(3), which may include technical assistance  
9           through the use of grants or cooperative agreements, to  
10          States for the activities described in subsection (b).

11          “(f) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall  
12          be construed as providing the Secretary the authority to  
13          regulate, direct, or dictate State child care quality activi-  
14          ties or progress in implementing those activities.”.

15          **SEC. 7. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

16          The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act  
17          of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) is amended by inserting  
18          after section 658G the following:

19          **“SEC. 658H. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

20          “(a) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives funds to  
21          carry out this subchapter shall have in effect—

22                  “(1) requirements, policies, and procedures to  
23                  require and conduct criminal background checks for  
24                  child care staff members (including prospective child

1 care staff members) of child care providers described  
2 in subsection (c)(1); and

3 “(2) licensing, regulation, and registration re-  
4 quirements, as applicable, that prohibit the employ-  
5 ment of child care staff members as described in  
6 subsection (c).

7 “(b) REQUIREMENTS.—A criminal background check  
8 for a child care staff member under subsection (a) shall  
9 include—

10 “(1) a search of each State criminal and sex of-  
11 fender registry or repository in the State where the  
12 child care staff member resides and each State  
13 where such staff member resided during the pre-  
14 ceding 10 years;

15 “(2) a search of State-based child abuse and  
16 neglect registries and databases in the State where  
17 the child care staff member resides and each State  
18 where such staff member resided during the pre-  
19 ceding 10 years;

20 “(3) a search of the National Crime Informa-  
21 tion Center;

22 “(4) a Federal Bureau of Investigation finger-  
23 print check using the Integrated Automated Finger-  
24 print Identification System; and

1           “(5) a search of the National Sex Offender  
2 Registry established under the Adam Walsh Child  
3 Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C.  
4 16901 et seq.).

5           “(c) PROHIBITIONS.—

6           “(1) CHILD CARE STAFF MEMBERS.—A child  
7 care staff member shall be ineligible for employment  
8 by a child care provider that is licensed, regulated,  
9 or registered by the State or for which assistance is  
10 provided in accordance with this subchapter, if such  
11 individual—

12           “(A) refuses to consent to the criminal  
13 background check described in subsection (b);

14           “(B) knowingly makes a materially false  
15 statement in connection with such criminal  
16 background check;

17           “(C) is registered, or is required to be reg-  
18 istered, on a State sex offender registry or re-  
19 pository or the National Sex Offender Registry  
20 established under the Adam Walsh Child Pro-  
21 tection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C.  
22 16901 et seq.); or

23           “(D) has been convicted of a felony con-  
24 sisting of—

1                   “(i) murder, as described in section  
2                   1111 of title 18, United States Code;

3                   “(ii) child abuse or neglect;

4                   “(iii) a crime against children, includ-  
5                   ing child pornography;

6                   “(iv) spousal abuse;

7                   “(v) a crime involving rape or sexual  
8                   assault;

9                   “(vi) kidnaping;

10                  “(vii) arson;

11                  “(viii) physical assault or battery; or

12                  “(ix) subject to subsection (e)(4), a  
13                  drug-related offense committed during the  
14                  preceding 5 years; or

15                  “(E) has been convicted of a violent mis-  
16                  demeanor committed as an adult against a  
17                  child, including the following crimes: child  
18                  abuse, child endangerment, sexual assault, or of  
19                  a misdemeanor involving child pornography.

20                  “(2) CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.—A child care  
21                  provider described in paragraph (1) shall be ineli-  
22                  gible for assistance provided in accordance with this  
23                  subchapter if the provider employs a staff member  
24                  who is ineligible for employment under paragraph  
25                  (1).

1       “(d) SUBMISSION OF REQUESTS FOR BACKGROUND  
2 CHECKS.—

3           “(1) IN GENERAL.—A child care provider cov-  
4 ered by subsection (c) shall submit a request, to the  
5 appropriate State agency designated by a State, for  
6 a criminal background check described in subsection  
7 (b), for each child care staff member (including pro-  
8 spective child care staff members) of the provider.

9           “(2) STAFF MEMBERS.—Subject to paragraph  
10 (4), in the case of an individual who became a child  
11 care staff member before the date of enactment of  
12 the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of  
13 2014, the provider shall submit such a request—

14           “(A) prior to the last day described in sub-  
15 section (i)(1); and

16           “(B) not less often than once during each  
17 5-year period following the first submission date  
18 under this paragraph for that staff member.

19           “(3) PROSPECTIVE STAFF MEMBERS.—Subject  
20 to paragraph (4), in the case of an individual who  
21 is a prospective child care staff member on or after  
22 that date of enactment, the provider shall submit  
23 such a request—

1           “(A) prior to the date the individual be-  
2 comes a child care staff member of the pro-  
3 vider; and

4           “(B) not less often than once during each  
5 5-year period following the first submission date  
6 under this paragraph for that staff member.

7           “(4) BACKGROUND CHECK FOR ANOTHER  
8 CHILD CARE PROVIDER.—A child care provider shall  
9 not be required to submit a request under paragraph  
10 (2) or (3) for a child care staff member if—

11           “(A) the staff member received a back-  
12 ground check described in subsection (b)—

13           “(i) within 5 years before the latest  
14 date on which such a submission may be  
15 made; and

16           “(ii) while employed by or seeking em-  
17 ployment by another child care provider  
18 within the State;

19           “(B) the State provided to the first pro-  
20 vider a qualifying background check result, con-  
21 sistent with this subchapter, for the staff mem-  
22 ber; and

23           “(C) the staff member is employed by a  
24 child care provider within the State, or has  
25 been separated from employment from a child



1 care provider within the State for a period of  
2 not more than 180 consecutive days.

3 “(e) BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS AND AP-  
4 PEALS.—

5 “(1) BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS.—The  
6 State shall carry out the request of a child care pro-  
7 vider for a criminal background check as expedi-  
8 tiously as possible, but in not to exceed 45 days  
9 after the date on which such request was submitted,  
10 and shall provide the results of the criminal back-  
11 ground check to such provider and to the current or  
12 prospective staff member.

13 “(2) PRIVACY.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The State shall pro-  
15 vide the results of the criminal background  
16 check to the provider in a statement that indi-  
17 cates whether a child care staff member (in-  
18 cluding a prospective child care staff member)  
19 is eligible or ineligible for employment described  
20 in subsection (c), without revealing any dis-  
21 qualifying crime or other related information  
22 regarding the individual.

23 “(B) INELIGIBLE STAFF MEMBER.—If the  
24 child care staff member is ineligible for such  
25 employment due to the background check, the

1 State will, when providing the results of the  
2 background check, include information related  
3 to each disqualifying crime, in a report to the  
4 staff member or prospective staff member.

5 “(C) PUBLIC RELEASE OF RESULTS.—No  
6 State shall publicly release or share the results  
7 of individual background checks, however, such  
8 results of background checks may be included  
9 in the development or dissemination of local or  
10 statewide data related to background checks, if  
11 such results are not individually identifiable.

12 “(3) APPEALS.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The State shall pro-  
14 vide for a process by which a child care staff  
15 member (including a prospective child care staff  
16 member) may appeal the results of a criminal  
17 background check conducted under this section  
18 to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the  
19 information contained in such member’s crimi-  
20 nal background report.

21 “(B) APPEALS PROCESS.—The State shall  
22 ensure that—

23 “(i) each child care staff member shall  
24 be given notice of the opportunity to ap-  
25 peal;

1           “(ii) a child care staff member will re-  
2           ceive instructions about how to complete  
3           the appeals process if the child care staff  
4           member wishes to challenge the accuracy  
5           or completeness of the information con-  
6           tained in such member’s criminal back-  
7           ground report; and

8           “(iii) the appeals process is completed  
9           in a timely manner for each child care  
10          staff member.

11          “(4) REVIEW.—The State may allow for a re-  
12          view process through which the State may determine  
13          that a child care staff member (including a prospec-  
14          tive child care staff member) disqualified for a crime  
15          specified in subsection (c)(1)(D)(ix) is eligible for  
16          employment described in subsection (c)(1), notwith-  
17          standing subsection (c). The review process shall be  
18          consistent with title VII of the Civil Rights Act of  
19          1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.).

20          “(5) NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Nothing  
21          in this section shall be construed to create a private  
22          right of action if the provider is in compliance with  
23          State regulations and requirements.

24          “(f) FEES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.—Fees that a  
25          State may charge for the costs of processing applications

1 and administering a criminal background check as re-  
2 quired by this section shall not exceed the actual costs to  
3 the State for the processing and administration.

4 “(g) CONSTRUCTION.—

5 “(1) DISQUALIFICATION FOR OTHER CRIMES.—

6 Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent  
7 a State from disqualifying individuals as child care  
8 staff members based on their conviction for crimes  
9 not specifically listed in this section that bear upon  
10 the fitness of an individual to provide care for and  
11 have responsibility for the safety and well-being of  
12 children.

13 “(2) RIGHTS AND REMEDIES.—Nothing in this  
14 section shall be construed to alter or otherwise affect  
15 the rights and remedies provided for child care staff  
16 members residing in a State that disqualifies individ-  
17 uals as child care staff members for crimes not spe-  
18 cifically provided for under this section.

19 “(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

20 “(1) the term ‘child care provider’ means a cen-  
21 ter-based child care provider, a family child care  
22 provider, or another provider of child care services  
23 for compensation and on a regular basis that—

1           “(A) is not an individual who is related to  
2 all children for whom child care services are  
3 provided; and

4           “(B) is licensed, regulated, or registered  
5 under State law or receives assistance provided  
6 in accordance with this subchapter; and

7           “(2) the term ‘child care staff member’ means  
8 an individual (other than an individual who is re-  
9 lated to all children for whom child care services are  
10 provided)—

11           “(A) who is employed by a child care pro-  
12 vider for compensation;

13           “(B) whose activities involve the care or  
14 supervision of children for a child care provider  
15 or unsupervised access to children who are  
16 cared for or supervised by a child care provider;  
17 or

18           “(C) who is a family child care provider.

19           “(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

20           “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives funds  
21 under this subchapter shall meet the requirements of  
22 this section for the provision of criminal background  
23 checks for child care staff members described in sub-  
24 section (d)(1) not later than the last day of the sec-  
25 ond full fiscal year after the date of enactment of

1 the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of  
2 2014.

3 “(2) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may grant a  
4 State an extension of time, of not more than 1 fiscal  
5 year, to meet the requirements of this section if the  
6 State demonstrates a good faith effort to comply  
7 with the requirements of this section.

8 “(3) PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—Except  
9 as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), for any fiscal  
10 year that a State fails to comply substantially with  
11 the requirements of this section, the Secretary shall  
12 withhold 5 percent of the funds that would otherwise  
13 be allocated to that State in accordance with this  
14 subchapter for the following fiscal year.”.

15 **SEC. 8. REPORTS AND INFORMATION.**

16 (a) ADMINISTRATION.—Section 658I of the Child  
17 Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42  
18 U.S.C. 9858g) is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (a)—

20 (A) in paragraph (2)—

21 (i) by inserting a comma after “pub-  
22 lish”; and

23 (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

24 (B) by striking paragraph (3) and insert-  
25 ing the following:

1           “(3) provide technical assistance to States  
2           (which may include providing assistance on a reim-  
3           bursable basis), consistent with (as appropriate) sci-  
4           entifically valid research, to carry out this sub-  
5           chapter;”;

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

7           “(4) disseminate, for voluntary informational  
8           purposes, information on practices that scientifically  
9           valid research indicates are most successful in im-  
10          proving the quality of programs that receive assist-  
11          ance with this subchapter;

12          “(5) after consultation with the Secretary of  
13          Education and the heads of any other Federal agen-  
14          cies involved, issue guidance, and disseminate infor-  
15          mation on best practices, regarding use of funding  
16          combined by States as described in section  
17          658E(c)(2)(O)(ii), consistent with law other than  
18          this subchapter.”;

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

20          “(c) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this subchapter shall  
21          be construed as providing the Secretary the authority to  
22          permit States to alter the eligibility requirements for eligi-  
23          ble children, including work requirements that apply to the  
24          parents of eligible children.”.

1 (b) REQUESTS FOR RELIEF.—Section 658I of the  
2 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990,  
3 as amended by subsection (a), is further amended by add-  
4 ing at the end the following:

5 “(d) REQUEST FOR RELIEF.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The State may submit to  
7 the Secretary a request for relief from any provision  
8 of Federal law (including a regulation, policy, or  
9 procedure) affecting the delivery of child care serv-  
10 ices with Federal funds, other than this subchapter,  
11 that conflicts with a requirement of this subchapter.

12 “(2) CONTENTS.—Such request shall—

13 “(A) detail the provision of Federal law  
14 that conflicts with that requirement;

15 “(B) describe how modifying compliance  
16 with that provision of Federal law to meet the  
17 requirements of this subchapter will, by itself,  
18 improve delivery of child care services for chil-  
19 dren in the State; and

20 “(C) certify that the health, safety, and  
21 well-being of children served through assistance  
22 received under this subchapter will not be com-  
23 promised as a result.

24 “(3) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall con-  
25 sult with the State submitting the request and the



1 head of each Federal agency (other than the Sec-  
2 retary) with responsibility for administering the  
3 Federal law detailed in the State's request. The con-  
4 sulting parties shall jointly identify—

5 “(A) any provision of Federal law (includ-  
6 ing a regulation, policy, or procedure) for which  
7 a waiver is necessary to enable the State to pro-  
8 vide services in accordance with the request;  
9 and

10 “(B) any corresponding waiver.

11 “(4) WAIVERS.—Notwithstanding any other  
12 provision of law, and after the joint identification de-  
13 scribed in paragraph (3), the head of the Federal  
14 agency involved shall have the authority to waive  
15 any statutory provision administered by that agency,  
16 or any regulation, policy, or procedure issued by that  
17 agency, that has been so identified, unless the head  
18 of the Federal agency determines that such a waiver  
19 is inconsistent with the objectives of this subchapter  
20 or the Federal law from which relief is sought.

21 “(5) APPROVAL.—Within 90 days after the re-  
22 ceipt of a State's request under this subsection, the  
23 Secretary shall inform the State of the Secretary's  
24 approval or disapproval of the request. If the plan  
25 is disapproved, the Secretary shall inform the State,

1 in writing, of the reasons for the disapproval and  
2 give the State the opportunity to amend the request.

3 “(6) DURATION.—The Secretary may approve a  
4 request under this subsection for a period of not  
5 more than 3 years, and may renew the approval for  
6 additional periods of not more than 3 years.

7 “(7) TERMINATION.—The Secretary shall ter-  
8minate approval of a request for relief authorized  
9 under this subsection if the Secretary determines,  
10 after notice and opportunity for a hearing, that the  
11 performance of a State granted relief under this  
12 subsection has been inadequate, or if such relief is  
13 no longer necessary to achieve its original pur-  
14 poses.”.

15 (c) REPORTS.—Section 658K(a) of the Child Care  
16 and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
17 9858i(a)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (1)(B)—

19 (A) in clause (ix), by striking “and” at the  
20 end;

21 (B) in clause (x), by inserting “and” at the  
22 end; and

23 (C) by inserting after clause (x), the fol-  
24 lowing:

1                   “(xi) whether the children receiving  
2                   assistance under this subchapter are home-  
3                   less children;” and

4                   (2) in paragraph (2)—

5                   (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
6                   (A), by striking “1997” and inserting “2014”;  
7                   and

8                   (B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sec-  
9                   tion 658P(5)” and inserting “section 658P(6)”.

10                  (d) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Section 658L of the  
11 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42  
12 U.S.C. 9858j) is amended—

13                  (1) by striking the section heading and insert-  
14                  ing the following:

15                  **“SEC. 658L. REPORTS, HOTLINE, AND WEB SITE.”;**

16                  (2) by striking “Not later” and inserting the  
17                  following:

18                  “(a) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not later”;

19                  (3) by striking “1998” and inserting “2016”;  
20                  and

21                  (4) by striking “to the Committee” and all that  
22                  follows through “of the Senate” and inserting “to  
23                  the Committee on Education and the Workforce of  
24                  the House of Representatives and the Committee on

1 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-  
2 ate”; and

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

4 “(b) NATIONAL TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB  
5 SITE.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall operate  
7 a national toll-free hotline and Web site, to—

8 “(A) develop and disseminate publicly  
9 available child care consumer education infor-  
10 mation for parents and help parents access  
11 safe, affordable, and quality child care in their  
12 community; and

13 “(B) to allow persons to report (anony-  
14 mously if desired) suspected child abuse or ne-  
15 glect, or violations of health and safety require-  
16 ments, by an eligible child care provider that re-  
17 ceives assistance under this subchapter.

18 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall en-  
19 sure that the hotline and Web site meet the fol-  
20 lowing requirements:

21 “(A) REFERRAL TO LOCAL CHILD CARE  
22 PROVIDERS.—The Web site shall be hosted by  
23 ‘childcare.gov’. The Web site shall enable a  
24 child care consumer to enter a zip code and ob-  
25 tain a referral to local child care providers de-

1 scribed in subparagraph (B) within a specified  
2 search radius.

3 “(B) INFORMATION.—The Web site shall  
4 provide to consumers, directly or through link-  
5 ages to State databases, at a minimum—

6 “(i) a localized list of all State li-  
7 censed child care providers;

8 “(ii) any provider-specific information  
9 from a Quality Rating and Improvement  
10 System or information about other quality  
11 indicators, to the extent the information is  
12 publicly available and to the extent prac-  
13 ticable;

14 “(iii) any other provider-specific infor-  
15 mation about compliance with licensing,  
16 and health and safety, requirements to the  
17 extent the information is publicly available  
18 and to the extent practicable;

19 “(iv) referrals to local resource and  
20 referral organizations from which con-  
21 sumers can find more information about  
22 child care providers, and a recommenda-  
23 tion that consumers consult with the orga-  
24 nizations when selecting a child care pro-  
25 vider; and

1           “(v) State information about child  
2           care subsidy programs and other financial  
3           supports available to families.

4           “(C) NATIONWIDE CAPACITY.—The Web  
5           site and hotline shall have the capacity to help  
6           families in every State and community in the  
7           Nation.

8           “(D) INFORMATION AT ALL HOURS.—The  
9           Web site shall provide, to parents and families,  
10          access to information about child care 24 hours  
11          a day.

12          “(E) SERVICES IN DIFFERENT LAN-  
13          GUAGES.—The Web site and hotline shall en-  
14          sure the widest possible access to services for  
15          families who speak languages other than  
16          English.

17          “(F) HIGH-QUALITY CONSUMER EDU-  
18          CATION AND REFERRAL.—The Web site and  
19          hotline shall ensure that families have access to  
20          child care consumer education and referral serv-  
21          ices that are consistent and of high quality.

22          “(3) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this subsection  
23          shall be construed to allow the Secretary to compel  
24          States to provide additional data and information  
25          that is currently (as of the date of enactment of the

1 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of  
 2 2014) not publicly available, or is not required by  
 3 this subchapter.”.

4 (e) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Section  
 5 658K(a)(1) of the Child Care and Development Block  
 6 Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858i(a)(1)) is amended  
 7 by adding at the end the following:

8 “(E) PROHIBITION.—Reports submitted to  
 9 the Secretary under subparagraph (C) shall not  
 10 contain individually identifiable information.”.

11 **SEC. 9. RESERVATION FOR TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB**  
 12 **SITE; PAYMENTS TO BENEFIT INDIAN CHIL-**  
 13 **DREN.**

14 Section 658O of the Child Care and Development  
 15 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858m) is amend-  
 16 ed—

17 (1) in subsection (a)—

18 (A) in paragraph (2)—

19 (i) by striking “The Secretary” and  
 20 inserting the following:

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;

22 (ii) by striking “1 percent, and not  
 23 more than 2 percent,” and inserting “2  
 24 percent”; and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(B) LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding sub-  
4 paragraph (A), the Secretary shall only reserve  
5 an amount that is greater than 2 percent of the  
6 amount appropriated under section 658B, for  
7 payments described in subparagraph (A), for a  
8 fiscal year (referred to in this subparagraph as  
9 the ‘reservation year’) if —

10 “(i) the amount appropriated under  
11 section 658B for the reservation year is  
12 greater than the amount appropriated  
13 under section 658B for fiscal year 2014;  
14 and

15 “(ii) the Secretary ensures that the  
16 amount allotted to States under subsection  
17 (b) for the reservation year is not less than  
18 the amount allotted to States under sub-  
19 section (b) for fiscal year 2014.”; and

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

21 “(3) NATIONAL TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB  
22 SITE.—The Secretary shall reserve not less than  
23 \$1,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this  
24 subchapter for each fiscal year for the operation of



1 a national toll-free hotline and Web site, under sec-  
2 tion 658L(b).”; and

3 (2) in subsection (c)—

4 (A) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end  
5 the following:

6 “(D) LICENSING AND STANDARDS.—In  
7 lieu of any licensing and regulatory require-  
8 ments applicable under State or local law, the  
9 Secretary, in consultation with Indian tribes  
10 and tribal organizations, shall develop minimum  
11 child care standards that shall be applicable to  
12 Indian tribes and tribal organizations receiving  
13 assistance under this subchapter. Such stand-  
14 ards shall appropriately reflect Indian tribe and  
15 tribal organization needs and available re-  
16 sources, and shall include standards requiring a  
17 publicly available application, health and safety  
18 standards, and standards requiring a reserva-  
19 tion of funds for activities to improve the qual-  
20 ity of child care provided to Indian children.”;  
21 and

22 (B) in paragraph (6), by striking subpara-  
23 graph (C) and inserting the following:

24 “(C) LIMITATION.—

1           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-  
2           vided in clause (ii), the Secretary may not  
3           permit an Indian tribe or tribal organiza-  
4           tion to use amounts provided under this  
5           subsection for construction or renovation if  
6           the use will result in a decrease in the level  
7           of child care services provided by the In-  
8           dian tribe or tribal organization as com-  
9           pared to the level of child care services  
10          provided by the Indian tribe or tribal orga-  
11          nization in the fiscal year preceding the  
12          year for which the determination under  
13          subparagraph (B) is being made.

14          “(ii) WAIVER.—The Secretary shall  
15          waive the limitation described in clause (i)  
16          if—

17                  “(I) the Secretary determines  
18                  that the decrease in the level of child  
19                  care services provided by the Indian  
20                  tribe or tribal organization is tem-  
21                  porary; and

22                  “(II) the Indian tribe or tribal  
23                  organization submits to the Secretary  
24                  a plan that demonstrates that after

1 the date on which the construction or  
2 renovation is completed—

3 “(aa) the level of child care  
4 services will increase; or

5 “(bb) the quality of child  
6 care services will improve.”.

7 **SEC. 10. DEFINITIONS.**

8 Section 658P of the Child Care and Development  
9 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858n) is amended—

10 (1) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the  
11 following:

12 “(3) CHILD WITH A DISABILITY.—The term  
13 ‘child with a disability’ means—

14 “(A) a child with a disability, as defined in  
15 section 602 of the Individuals with Disabilities  
16 Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401);

17 “(B) a child who is eligible for early inter-  
18 vention services under part C of the Individuals  
19 with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.  
20 1431 et seq.);

21 “(C) a child who is less than 13 years of  
22 age and who is eligible for services under sec-  
23 tion 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29  
24 U.S.C. 794); and

1           “(D) a child with a disability, as defined  
2           by the State involved.

3           “(4) ELIGIBLE CHILD.—The term ‘eligible  
4           child’ means an individual—

5           “(A) who is less than 13 years of age;

6           “(B) whose family income does not exceed  
7           85 percent of the State median income for a  
8           family of the same size, and whose family assets  
9           do not exceed \$1,000,000 (as certified by a  
10          member of such family); and

11          “(C) who—

12           “(i) resides with a parent or parents  
13           who are working or attending a job train-  
14           ing or educational program; or

15           “(ii) is receiving, or needs to receive,  
16           protective services and resides with a par-  
17           ent or parents not described in clause (i).”;

18          (2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through  
19          (9) as paragraphs (6) through (10), respectively;

20          (3) by inserting after paragraph (4), the fol-  
21          lowing:

22          “(5) ENGLISH LEARNER.—The term ‘English  
23          learner’ means an individual who is limited English  
24          proficient, as defined in section 9101 of the Elemen-  
25          tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20

1 U.S.C. 7801) or section 637 of the Head Start Act  
2 (42 U.S.C. 9832).”;

3 (4) in paragraph (6)(A), as redesignated by  
4 paragraph (2)—

5 (A) in clause (i), by striking “section  
6 658E(c)(2)(E)” and inserting “section  
7 658E(c)(2)(F)”;

8 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “section  
9 658E(c)(2)(F)” and inserting “section  
10 658E(c)(2)(I)”;

11 (5) in paragraph (9), as redesignated by para-  
12 graph (2), by striking “designated” and all that fol-  
13 lows and inserting “designated or established under  
14 section 658D(a).”;

15 (6) in paragraph (10), as redesignated by para-  
16 graph (2), by inserting “, foster parent,” after  
17 “guardian”;

18 (7) by redesignating paragraphs (11) through  
19 (14) as paragraphs (12) through (15), respectively;  
20 and

21 (8) by inserting after paragraph (10), as redesi-  
22 gnated by paragraph (2), the following:

23 “(11) SCIENTIFICALLY VALID RESEARCH.—The  
24 term ‘scientifically valid research’ includes applied  
25 research, basic research, and field-initiated research,

1 for which the rationale, design, and interpretation  
 2 are soundly developed in accordance with principles  
 3 of scientific research.”.

4 **SEC. 10A. PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**

5 Section 658Q of the Child Care and Development  
 6 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858o) is amended—

7 (1) by inserting before “Nothing” the following:

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—”; and

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

10 “(b) PARENTAL RIGHTS TO USE CHILD CARE CER-  
 11 TIFICATES.—Nothing in this subchapter shall be con-  
 12 strued in a manner—

13 “(1) to favor or promote the use of grants and  
 14 contracts for the receipt of child care services under  
 15 this subchapter over the use of child care certifi-  
 16 cates; or

17 “(2) to disfavor or discourage the use of such  
 18 certificates for the purchase of child care services,  
 19 including those services provided by private or non-  
 20 profit entities, such as faith-based providers.”.

21 **SEC. 11. STUDIES ON WAITING LISTS.**

22 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United  
 23 States shall conduct studies to determine, for each State,  
 24 the number of families that—

1           (1) are eligible to receive assistance under the  
2 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of  
3 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.);

4           (2) have applied for the assistance; and

5           (3) have been placed on a waiting list for the  
6 assistance.

7       (b) REPORT.—The Comptroller General shall prepare  
8 a report containing the results of each study and shall sub-  
9 mit the report to the appropriate committees of Con-  
10 gress—

11           (1) not later than 2 years after the date of en-  
12 actment of this Act; and

13           (2) every 2 years thereafter.

14       (c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “State”  
15 has the meaning given the term in section 658P of the  
16 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42  
17 U.S.C. 9858n).

18 **SEC. 12. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

19       Section 319C–1(b)(2)(A)(vii) of the Public Health  
20 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–3a(b)(2)(A)(vii)) is amended  
21 by inserting “or established” after “designated”.

22 **SEC. 13. REVIEW OF FEDERAL EARLY LEARNING AND CARE**  
23 **PROGRAMS.**

24       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
25 Human Services, in conjunction with the Secretary of

1 Education, shall conduct an interdepartmental review of  
2 all early learning and care programs in order to—

3           (1) develop a plan for the elimination of dupli-  
4           cative and overlapping programs, as identified by the  
5           Government Accountability Office’s 2012 annual re-  
6           port (GAO–12–342SP); and

7           (2) make recommendations to Congress for  
8           streamlining all such programs.

9           (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
10 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and  
11 Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of  
12 Education and the heads of all Federal agencies that ad-  
13 minister Federal early learning and care programs, shall  
14 submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor,  
15 and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Edu-  
16 cation and the Workforce of the House of Representatives,  
17 a detailed report that outlines the efficiencies that can be  
18 achieved by, as well as specific recommendations for, elimi-  
19 nating duplication, overlap, and fragmentation among all  
20 Federal early learning and care programs.

21 **SEC. 14. SAFE CHILD CARE ACT.**

22           (a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the  
23 “Safe Child Care Act of 2014”.



1 (b) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—Section 231 of the  
2 Crime Control Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13041) is amend-  
3 ed—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “sub-  
6 section (b)(3)” and inserting “paragraph (3)”;  
7 and

8 (B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as  
9 paragraph (4);

10 (2) by moving paragraphs (2) and (3) of sub-  
11 section (b) to subsection (a), and inserting them  
12 after paragraph (1) of that subsection;

13 (3) in subsection (a)(3), as redesignated by  
14 paragraph (2) of this subsection, by striking “sub-  
15 section (a)(1)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”;

16 (4) in subsection (b), by striking paragraph (1)  
17 and inserting the following:

18 “(1) A background check required by subsection (a)  
19 shall be initiated through the personnel programs of the  
20 applicable Federal agencies.

21 “(2) A background check for a child care staff mem-  
22 ber under subsection (a) shall include—

23 “(A) a search, including a fingerprint check, of  
24 the State criminal registry or repository in—

1           “(i) the State where the child care staff  
2 member resides; and

3           “(ii) each State where the child care staff  
4 member previously resided during the longer  
5 of—

6                   “(I) the 10-year period ending on the  
7 date on which the background check is ini-  
8 tiated; or

9                   “(II) the period beginning on the date  
10 on which the child care staff member at-  
11 tained 18 years of age and ending on the  
12 date on which the background check is ini-  
13 tiated;

14           “(B) a search of State-based child abuse and  
15 neglect registries and databases in—

16                   “(i) the State where the child care staff  
17 member resides; and

18                   “(ii) each State where the child care staff  
19 member previously resided during the longer  
20 of—

21                   “(I) the 10-year period ending on the  
22 date on which the background check is ini-  
23 tiated; or

24                   “(II) the period beginning on the date  
25 on which the child care staff member at-

1           tained 18 years of age and ending on the  
2           date on which the background check is ini-  
3           tiated;

4           “(C) a search of the National Crime Informa-  
5           tion Center database;

6           “(D) a Federal Bureau of Investigation finger-  
7           print check using the Integrated Automated Finger-  
8           print Identification System;

9           “(E) a search of the National Sex Offender  
10          Registry established under the Adam Walsh Child  
11          Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C.  
12          16901 et seq.); and

13          “(F) a search of the State sex offender registry  
14          established under that Act in—

15                 “(i) the State where the child care staff  
16                 member resides; and

17                 “(ii) each State where the child care staff  
18                 member previously resided during the longer  
19                 of—

20                         “(I) the 10-year period ending on the  
21                         date on which the background check is ini-  
22                         tiated; or

23                         “(II) the period beginning on the date  
24                         on which the child care staff member at-  
25                         tained 18 years of age and ending on the

1                   date on which the background check is ini-  
2                   tiated.

3           “(3) A child care staff member shall be ineligible for  
4 employment by a child care provider if such individual—

5                   “(A) refuses to consent to the background  
6 check described in subsection (a);

7                   “(B) makes a false statement in connection  
8 with such background check;

9                   “(C) is registered, or is required to be reg-  
10 istered, on a State sex offender registry or the Na-  
11 tional Sex Offender Registry established under the  
12 Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of  
13 2006; or

14                   “(D) has been convicted of a felony consisting  
15 of—

16                   “(i) murder, as described in section 1111  
17 of title 18, United States Code;

18                   “(ii) child abuse or neglect;

19                   “(iii) a crime against children, including  
20 child pornography;

21                   “(iv) spousal abuse;

22                   “(v) a crime involving rape or sexual as-  
23 sault;

24                   “(vi) kidnapping;

25                   “(vii) arson;

1                   “(viii) physical assault or battery; or

2                   “(ix) subject to paragraph (5)(D), a drug-  
3                   related offense committed during the preceding  
4                   5 years.

5           “(4)(A) A child care provider covered by paragraph  
6 (3) shall submit a request, to the appropriate State agency  
7 designated by a State, for a background check described  
8 in subsection (a), for each child care staff member (includ-  
9 ing prospective child care staff members) of the provider.

10          “(B) In the case of an individual who is hired as a  
11 child care staff member before the date of enactment of  
12 the Safe Child Care Act of 2014, the provider shall submit  
13 such a request—

14                   “(i) prior to the last day of the second full fis-  
15 cal year after that date of enactment; and

16                   “(ii) not less often than once during each 5-  
17 year period following the first submission date under  
18 this subparagraph for that staff member.

19          “(C) In the case of an individual who is a prospective  
20 child care staff member on or after that date of enact-  
21 ment, the provider shall submit such a request—

22                   “(i) prior to the date the individual becomes a  
23 child care staff member of the provider; and

1           “(ii) not less often than once during each 5-  
2 year period following the first submission date under  
3 this subparagraph for that staff member.

4           “(5)(A) The State shall—

5           “(i) carry out the request of a child care pro-  
6 vider for a background check described in subsection  
7 (a) as expeditiously as possible; and

8           “(ii) in accordance with subparagraph (B) of  
9 this paragraph, provide the results of the back-  
10 ground check to—

11           “(I) the child care provider; and

12           “(II) the current or prospective child care  
13 staff member for whom the background check is  
14 conducted.

15           “(B)(i) The State shall provide the results of a back-  
16 ground check to a child care provider as required under  
17 subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) in a statement that—

18           “(I) indicates whether the current or prospec-  
19 tive child care staff member for whom the back-  
20 ground check is conducted is eligible or ineligible for  
21 employment by a child care provider; and

22           “(II) does not reveal any disqualifying crime or  
23 other related information regarding the current or  
24 prospective child care staff member.

1       “(ii) If a current or prospective child care staff mem-  
2 ber is ineligible for employment by a child care provider  
3 due to a background check described in subsection (a), the  
4 State shall provide the results of the background check  
5 to the current or prospective child care staff member as  
6 required under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) in a criminal  
7 background report that includes information relating to  
8 each disqualifying crime.

9       “(iii) A State—

10           “(I) may not publicly release or share the re-  
11 sults of an individual background check described in  
12 subsection (a); and

13           “(II) may include the results of background  
14 checks described in subsection (a) in the develop-  
15 ment or dissemination of local or statewide data re-  
16 lating to background checks if the results are not in-  
17 dividually identifiable.

18       “(C)(i) The State shall provide for a process by which  
19 a child care staff member (including a prospective child  
20 care staff member) may appeal the results of a back-  
21 ground check required under subsection (a) to challenge  
22 the accuracy or completeness of the information contained  
23 in the criminal background report of the staff member.

24       “(ii) The State shall ensure that—

1           “(I) the appeals process is completed in a time-  
2 ly manner for each child care staff member;

3           “(II) each child care staff member is given no-  
4 tice of the opportunity to appeal; and

5           “(III) each child care staff member who wishes  
6 to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the in-  
7 formation in the criminal background report of the  
8 child care staff member is given instructions about  
9 how to complete the appeals process.

10          “(D)(i) The State may allow for a review process  
11 through which the State may determine that a child care  
12 staff member (including a prospective child care staff  
13 member) disqualified for a crime specified in paragraph  
14 (3)(D)(ix) is eligible for employment by a child care pro-  
15 vider, notwithstanding paragraph (3).

16          “(ii) The review process under this subparagraph  
17 shall be consistent with title VII of the Civil Rights Act  
18 of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.).

19          “(E) Nothing in this section shall be construed to cre-  
20 ate a private right of action against a child care provider  
21 if the child care provider is in compliance with this section.

22          “(F) This section shall apply to each State that re-  
23 ceives funding under the Child Care and Development  
24 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.).



1       “(6) Fees that the State may charge for the costs  
2 of conducting a background check as required by sub-  
3 section (a) shall not exceed the actual costs to the State  
4 for the administration of such background checks.

5       “(7) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to  
6 prevent a Federal agency from disqualifying an individual  
7 as a child care staff member based on a conviction of the  
8 individual for a crime not specifically listed in this sub-  
9 section that bears upon the fitness of an individual to pro-  
10 vide care for and have responsibility for the safety and  
11 well-being of children.

12       “(8) In this subsection—

13               “(A) the term ‘child care provider’ means an  
14 agency of the Federal Government, or a unit of or  
15 contractor with the Federal Government that is op-  
16 erating a facility, described in subsection (a); and

17               “(B) the term ‘child care staff member’ means  
18 an individual who is hired, or seeks to be hired, by  
19 a child care provider to be involved with the provi-  
20 sion of child care services, as described in subsection  
21 (a).”; and

22               (5) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the  
23 following:

24       “(c) **SUSPENSION PENDING DISPOSITION OF CRIMI-**  
25 **NAL CASE.**—In the case of an incident in which an indi-

1 vidual has been charged with an offense described in sub-  
 2 section (b)(3)(D) and the charge has not yet been disposed  
 3 of, an employer may suspend an employee from having  
 4 any contact with children while on the job until the case  
 5 is resolved.”.

6 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
 7 this section shall take effect on October 1 of the second  
 8 full fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act.

9 **SEC. 15. ALLOTMENT OF SPACE IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS**  
 10 **FOR CHILD CARE.**

11 Section 590 of title 40, United States Code, is  
 12 amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsections (a) through (g)  
 14 as subsections (b) through (h), respectively;

15 (2) by inserting before subsection (b) (as so re-  
 16 designated) the following:

17 “(a) DEFINITION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEE.—In this  
 18 section, the term ‘Federal employee’ does not include a  
 19 person that—

20 “(1) is not employed by the Federal Govern-  
 21 ment; and

22 “(2) meets the requirements described in sub-  
 23 section (c)(2)(C)(i)(II).”;

1           (3) in paragraph (2)(C) of subsection (c) (as so  
2 redesignated), by striking clause (i) and inserting  
3 the following:

4                   “(i) the space will be used to provide  
5 child care services to children of whom at  
6 least 50 percent have 1 parent or guardian  
7 who—

8                           “(I) is employed by the Federal  
9 Government; or

10                           “(II)(aa) has met the require-  
11 ments for a master’s degree or a doc-  
12 torate degree from an institution of  
13 higher education (as defined in section  
14 102 of the Higher Education Act of  
15 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)); and

16                           “(bb) is conducting research in  
17 the Federal building under an ar-  
18 rangement between the parent or  
19 guardian and a Federal agency.”; and

20           (4) in subsection (d) (as so redesignated), by  
21 striking “subsection (b)” each place it appears and  
22 inserting “subsection (c)”.

1 **SEC. 16. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON SIGNIFICANTLY REDUC-**  
2 **ING CHILD POVERTY BY CALENDAR YEAR**  
3 **2019.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

5 (1) the United States has the highest rate of  
6 childhood poverty among 34 major countries in the  
7 Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Devel-  
8 opment, including Denmark, Finland, Norway, Ice-  
9 land, Cyprus, Austria, Sweden, the Czech Republic,  
10 Germany, Slovenia, Hungary, South Korea, the  
11 United Kingdom, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Ire-  
12 land, France, Malta, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Esto-  
13 nia, Belgium, New Zealand, Poland, Canada, Aus-  
14 tralia, Japan, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Lithuania,  
15 Latvia, Spain, and Bulgaria;

16 (2) a record-breaking 46,496,000 individuals  
17 lived in poverty in the United States in 2012, which  
18 is an increase of 14,915,000 individuals since 2000;

19 (3) 16,073,000 children in the United States  
20 lived in poverty in 2012, which is an increase of  
21 4,486,000 children since 2000;

22 (4) more than 7,100,000 children in the United  
23 States, 40 percent of children living in poverty in the  
24 United States, live in extreme poverty (defined as  
25 living in families with an income that is less than  
26 half of the poverty level);

1           (5) nearly 1,200,000 public school students in  
2 the United States were homeless in the 2011–2012  
3 school year, an increase of 73 percent since the  
4 2006–2007 school year;

5           (6) in an average month in fiscal year 2011,  
6 1,200,000 households with children in the United  
7 States did not have any cash income and, for food,  
8 depended only on benefits under the supplemental  
9 nutrition assistance program established under the  
10 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et  
11 seq.);

12           (7) in 2012, government assistance programs  
13 removed from poverty 9,000,000 children, including  
14 5,300,000 children through the earned income tax  
15 credit under section 32 of the Internal Revenue  
16 Code of 1986 and the child tax credit under section  
17 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and  
18 2,200,000 children through the supplemental nutri-  
19 tion assistance program established under the Food  
20 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

21           (8) in 2012, child poverty would have been 57  
22 percent higher, and extreme poverty would have  
23 been 240 percent higher, without government tax  
24 credits and food, housing, and energy benefits;

1           (9) in 2013, an individual working full-time at  
2 the Federal minimum wage could not afford the fair  
3 market rent for a 2-bedroom rental unit and have  
4 enough money for food, utilities, and other neces-  
5 sities;

6           (10) in school years 2009–2010 and 2010–  
7 2011, less than half of children ages 3 and 4 were  
8 enrolled in preschool;

9           (11) Early Head Start programs carried out  
10 under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.)  
11 served only 4 percent of the 2,900,000 eligible poor  
12 infants and toddlers each day in fiscal year 2012,  
13 and Head Start programs carried out under such  
14 Act served only 41 percent of the 2,000,000 eligible  
15 poor children ages 3 and 4;

16           (12) more than 220,000 children are on waiting  
17 lists for child care assistance; and

18           (13) child poverty costs the United States not  
19 less than \$500,000,000 each year in additional edu-  
20 cation, health, and criminal justice costs and in lost  
21 productivity.

22           (b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the  
23 Senate that the President should immediately present to

- 1 Congress a comprehensive plan to significantly reduce
- 2 child poverty in the United States by calendar year 2019.

Passed the Senate March 13, 2014.

Attest:

*Secretary.*

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**S. 1086**

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**AN ACT**

To reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and for other purposes.