S. 2475

To realign structures and reallocate resources in the Federal Government, in keeping with the core American belief that families are the best protection for children and the bedrock of any society, to bolster United States diplomacy and assistance targeted at ensuring that every child can grow up in a permanent, safe, nurturing, and loving family, and to strengthen intercountry adoption to the United States and around the world and ensure that it becomes a viable and fully developed option for providing families for children in need, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 17, 2014

Ms. Landrieu (for herself, Mr. Blunt, Mr. Burr, Mr. Casey, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Coons, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. King, Mr. Kirk, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Levin, Mr. Markey, Mrs. McCaskill, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Schumer, Mrs. Shaheen, Ms. Stabenow, Mr. Thune, Ms. Warren, and Mr. Wicker) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To realign structures and reallocate resources in the Federal Government, in keeping with the core American belief that families are the best protection for children and the bedrock of any society, to bolster United States diplomacy and assistance targeted at ensuring that every child can grow up in a permanent, safe, nurturing, and loving family, and to strengthen intercountry adoption to the United States and around the world and ensure that it becomes a viable and fully developed option for pro-

viding families for children in need, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Children in Families First Act of 2014".
- 6 (b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents is
- 7 as follows:
 - Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 - Sec. 2. Findings; purposes.
 - Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—REALIGNMENT OF CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL CHILD WELFARE RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

- Sec. 101. Establishment of the Office of Vulnerable Children and Family Security in the Department of State.
- Sec. 102. Responsibilities of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for accreditation of adoption service providers.
- Sec. 103. Transfer of functions and savings provisions.
- Sec. 104. Responsibilities of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for adoption-related case processing.

TITLE II—ANNUAL REPORTING

- Sec. 201. Annual report on children living without families.
- Sec. 202. Country reports regarding severe forms of trafficking.

TITLE III—PROMOTION OF A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH FOR CHILDREN IN ADVERSITY

Sec. 301. Establishment of a USAID Center for Excellence for Children in Adversity.

TITLE IV—FUNDING AND EFFECTIVE DATES

- Sec. 401. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 402. Effective dates.

8 SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

- 9 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
- 10 ings:

1	(1) The people of the United States recognize
2	and believe that children must grow up in perma-
3	nent, safe, and nurturing families in order to develop
4	and thrive.
5	(2) Science proves that children, and particu-
6	larly infants, living in impersonal, socially deprived
7	institutions suffer lasting, and in many cases, irre-
8	versible damage, including—
9	(A) reduced brain activity and brain size;
10	(B) lower intelligence quotients;
11	(C) serious behavioral and emotional prob-
12	lems; and
13	(D) disturbed relationships with others.
14	(3) Governments in other countries seek models
15	that promote the placement of children who are liv-
16	ing outside family care in permanent, safe, and nur-
17	turing families, rather than in foster care or institu-
18	tions; but many governments lack the resources or
19	infrastructure to adequately address this need.
20	(4) Despite the good efforts of countless gov-
21	ernments and nongovernmental organizations, mil-
22	lions of children remain uncounted and outside of
23	the protection, nurturing care, permanence, safety,

and love of a family.

- (5) No reliable data currently exists to define and document the number and needs of children in the world currently living without families, but available evidence demonstrates that there are millions of children in this situation needing immediate help.
 - (6) The December 2012 Action Plan for Children in Adversity commits the United States Government to achieving a world in which all children grow up within protective family care and free from deprivation, exploitation, and danger. To effectively and efficiently accomplish this goal, it is necessary to realign the United States Government's current operational system for assisting orphans and vulnerable children, and processing intercountry adoptions.
 - (7) Significant resources are already dedicated to international assistance for orphans and vulnerable children, and a relatively small portion of these resources can be reallocated to achieve more timely, effective, nurturing, and permanent familial solutions for children living without families, resulting in fewer children worldwide living in institutions or on the streets, more families preserved or reunified, and increased domestic and international adoptions.
- (b) Purposes.—The purposes of this Act are—

- 1 (1) to support the core American value that 2 families are the bedrock of any society;
 - (2) to protect the fundamental human right of all children to grow up within the loving care of permanent, safe, and nurturing families;
 - (3) to address a critical gap in United States foreign policy implementation by adjusting the Federal Government's international policy and operational structures so that seeking permanent families for children living without families receives more prominence, focus, and resources (through the reallocation of existing personnel and resources);
 - (4) to harness the diplomatic and operational power of the United States Government in the international sphere by helping to identify and implement timely, permanent, safe, and nurturing familial solutions for children living without families, including refugee or stateless children, through effective implementation of the 3 principal objectives of the Action Plan on Children in Adversity;
 - (5) to ensure that intercountry adoption by United States citizens becomes a viable and fully developed option for creating permanent families for children who need them;

1	(6) to protect against abuses of children, birth
2	families, and adoptive parents involved in inter-
3	country adoptions, and to ensure that such adop-
4	tions are in the individual child's best interests; and
5	(7) to harmonize and strengthen existing inter-
6	country adoption processes under United States
7	law—
8	(A) by ensuring that the same set of proce-
9	dures and criteria govern suitability and eligi-
10	bility determinations for prospective adoptive
11	parents seeking to complete intercountry adop-
12	tions, whether or not the child is from a foreign
13	state that is a party to the Hague Adoption
14	Convention; and
15	(B) by aligning the definitions of eligible
16	child for Convention adoptions and non-Conven-
17	tion adoptions to the maximum extent possible.
18	SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.
19	In this Act:
20	(1) ACTION PLAN ON CHILDREN IN ADVER-
21	SITY.—The term "Action Plan on Children in Adver-
22	sity" means the policy document entitled "United
23	States Government Action Plan on Children in Ad-

 $versity: \ A \ \ Framework \ \ for \ \ International \ \ Assistance:$

 $2012\hbox{--}2017\text{''},$ released on December 19, 2012, in-

24

1	cluding any subsequent amendments or revisions re-
2	leased by the United States Government before the
3	end of 2017.
4	(2) Appropriate, protective, and perma-
5	NENT FAMILY CARE.—The term "appropriate, pro-
6	tective, and permanent family care" means a nur-
7	turing, lifelong, commitment to a child by an adult,
8	or adults with parental roles and responsibilities
9	that—
10	(A) provides physical and emotional sup-
11	port;
12	(B) provides the child with a sense of be-
13	longing; and
14	(C) generally involves full legal recognition
15	of the child's status as child of the parents and
16	of the parents' rights and responsibilities re-
17	garding the child.
18	(3) Central Authority.—The term "central
19	authority" has the meaning given the term in sec-
20	tion 3 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42
21	U.S.C. 14902).
22	(4) CHILDREN IN ADVERSITY.—The term "chil-
23	dren in adversity" means children and youth—
24	(A) who are younger than 18 years of age;

1	(B) who live inside or outside of family
2	care; and
3	(C) whose safety, well-being, growth, and
4	development are at significant risk due to inad-
5	equate care, protection, or access to essential
6	services.
7	(5) Convention adoption.—The term "Con-
8	vention adoption" has the meaning given the term in
9	section 3 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000
10	(42 U.S.C. 14902).
11	(6) Convention Country.—The term "Con-
12	vention country" has the meaning given the term in
13	section 3 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000
14	(42 U.S.C. 14902) and for which the Hague Adop-
15	tion Convention has entered into force.
16	(7) Family.—The term "family" means a col-
17	lective body of persons, consisting of at least 1 child
18	and 1 parent, legal custodian, or adult relative, in
19	which—
20	(A) the persons reside in the same house
21	or living unit; or
22	(B) the parent, legal custodian, or adult
23	relative has a legal responsibility by blood, mar-
24	riage, or legal order to support or care for the
25	child.

(8) Guardianship.—

- (A) IN GENERAL.—The term "guardianship" means a permanent legal relationship between an adult and a child, in which the adult is lawfully invested with the power, and charged with the duty, of taking care of the child.
- (B) PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP.—While some forms of guardianship are not truly permanent, the form of guardianship referred to and supported under this Act is permanent guardianship.
- (C) Kefala order.—A Kefala order issued by a country that follows traditional Islamic law does not qualify as an adoption under United States law, but may be a form of guardianship in some circumstances.
- (D) Family-like group homes.—Individual parent-child relationships in a small, family-like group home in which caretaking is provided only by 1 or more unpaid caretakers might, in some circumstances, qualify as a guardianship if legalized in that form.
- (E) PAID GUARDIANSHIP.—The term "guardianship" does not include a paid guardianship, although an exception may be appro-

1	priate in cases involving children with disabil-
2	ities.
3	(9) Habitual residence determination.—
4	The term "habitual residence determination" means
5	a factual determination of where a prospective adop-
6	tive parent (or parents) resides and where the child
7	resides for purposes of an intercountry adoption
8	case.
9	(10) Hague adoption convention.—The
10	term "Hague Adoption Convention" means the Con-
11	vention of Protection of Children and Cooperation in
12	Respect of Intercountry Adoption, concluded at The
13	Hague May 29, 1993.
14	(11) Institutional care.—The term "institu-
15	tional care" means care provided in any nonfamily-
16	based group setting, including—
17	(A) orphanages;
18	(B) transit or interim care centers;
19	(C) children's homes;
20	(D) children's villages or cottage com-
21	plexes; and
22	(E) boarding schools used primarily for
23	care purposes as an alternative to a children's
24	home.

1	(12) Kinship Care.—The term "kinship
2	care"—
3	(A) means the full-time care, nurturing,
4	and protection of children by relatives, members
5	of their tribes or clans, godparents, stepparents,
6	or any adult who has a kinship bond with a
7	child, if such persons have the capacity and
8	commitment to function as true parents for the
9	child on a permanent basis; and
10	(B) does not include paid kinship foster
11	care, except in the case of children with disabil-
12	ities.
13	(13) Non-convention adoption.—The term
14	"non-Convention adoption" means—
15	(A) an adoption by United States parents
16	of a child from a non-Convention country in ac-
17	cordance with subparagraph (F) of section
18	101(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality
19	Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1));
20	(B) an adoption by United States parents
21	of a child under the laws of the child's country
22	of origin (generally when the parents are living
23	in the child's country of origin and therefore
24	able legally to complete a domestic adoption); or

- 1 (C) in certain circumstances (generally
 2 with respect to relative adoptions or adoptions
 3 by dual national parents), an adoption by
 4 United States parents of a child from a Con5 vention country if that country allows legal and
 6 valid adoptions to take place outside the scope
 7 of the Convention.
 - (14) Non-convention country.—The term "non-Convention country" means a country in which the Hague Adoption Convention has not entered into force, regardless of whether or not that country has signed the Convention.
 - "unparented children" means children lacking the legal, permanent, safe, and nurturing care of a parental figure or figures, either inside their country of origin, in the country of their habitual residence, or elsewhere, regardless of their lawful or unlawful immigration status in their current country of residence.

1	TITLE I—REALIGNMENT OF CER-
2	TAIN INTERNATIONAL CHILD
3	WELFARE RESPONSIBILITIES
4	AND FUNCTIONS
5	SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF VULNER-
6	ABLE CHILDREN AND FAMILY SECURITY IN
7	THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
8	(a) Establishment.—There is established within
9	the Department of State the Office of Vulnerable Children
10	and Family Security (referred to in this Act as the
11	"VCFS"), which shall be located in the Secretariat for Ci-
12	vilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights and shall
13	promote and support the following activities:
14	(1) The development and implementation in for-
15	eign countries of child welfare laws, regulations,
16	policies, best practices, and procedures in keeping
17	with the goals articulated in the Action Plan for
18	Children in Adversity, including—
19	(A) the sound development of children
20	through the integration of health, nutrition, and
21	family support;
22	(B) supporting and enabling families to
23	care for children through family preservation,
24	reunification, and support of kinship care.

- guardianship, and domestic and intercountry adoption; and
 - (C) facilitating the efforts of national governments and partners to prevent, respond to, and protect children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect.
 - (2) Addressing the gap in United States Government diplomacy, policy, and operations with respect to promoting appropriate, protective, and permanent family care for children living without families by leading the development and implementation of policies that will ensure the timely provision of appropriate, protective, and permanent family care for children living without families, including refugee and stateless children, through the full continuum of permanence solutions, including family preservation and reunification, kinship care, guardianship, and domestic and intercountry adoption.

(b) Ambassador-at-Large.—

- (1) APPOINTMENT.—The VCFS shall be headed by an Ambassador-at-Large, who shall be appointed by the President by and with the consent of the Senate.
- 24 (2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Ambassador-at 25 Large shall—

1	(A) have experience in the development of
2	policies and systems and the implementation of
3	programs that promote the goals of the Action
4	Plan for Children in Adversity;
5	(B) be knowledgeable of international child
6	welfare, family permanence, and family creation
7	through domestic and intercountry adoption;
8	and
9	(C) be committed to developing an inte-
10	grated United States Government approach to
11	international child welfare that places equal em-
12	phasis on—
13	(i) early childhood survival and devel-
14	opment;
15	(ii) family permanence; and
16	(iii) protection from abuse and exploi-
17	tation.
18	(3) Authority.—The Ambassador-at-Large
19	shall report to the Under Secretary for Civilian Se-
20	curity, Democracy and Human Rights.
21	(c) Functions.—
22	(1) Advisory.—The Ambassador-at-Large
23	shall serve as a primary advisor to the Secretary of
24	State and the President in all matters related to vul-

- nerable children and family security in foreign countries.
 - (2) DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION.—Subject to the direction of the President and the Secretary of State, and in consultation and coordination with the Senior Coordinator for Children in Adversity of the United States Agency for International Development, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Ambassador-at-Large shall represent the United States in matters relevant to international child welfare, family preservation and reunification, and provision of permanent, safe parental care through kinship, domestic and intercountry adoption in—
 - (A) contacts with foreign governments, nongovernmental organizations, intergovernmental agencies, and specialized agencies of the United Nations and other international organizations of which the United States is a member;
 - (B) multilateral conferences and meetings relevant to family preservation, reunification, and creating appropriate, protective, and permanent care for unparented children; and
 - (C) fulfillment of the diplomatic responsibilities designated to the central authority under title I of the Intercountry Adoption Act

1	of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14911 et seq.), as amended
2	by this Act.
3	(3) Policy development with respect to
4	PERMANENCE FOR UNPARENTED CHILDREN.—
5	(A) In General.—The Ambassador-at-
6	Large shall—
7	(i) develop and advocate for policies
8	and practices to ensure that children in
9	foreign countries who are living without
10	families find appropriate, protective, and
11	permanent family care which is in the best
12	interest of each child;
13	(ii) give consideration to family pres-
14	ervation and reunification, kinship care,
15	guardianship, and domestic and inter-
16	country adoption; and
17	(iii) seek to develop and implement
18	policies that lead to the use of all options
19	for providing appropriate, protective, and
20	permanent family care to children living
21	without families as quickly as possible.
22	(B) Best interest determination.—In
23	carrying out subparagraph (A), the Ambas-
24	sador-at-Large shall give preference to options
25	that optimize the best interests of children, in-

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cluding options which provide children with fully protected legal status as children and parents with full legal status as parents, including full parental rights and responsibilities.

(C) Subsidiarity.—

(i) In General.—All options for providing appropriate, protective, and permanent family care to children living without families must be considered concurrently and permanent solutions must be put in place as quickly as possible. Solutions include family preservation and reunification, kinship care, guardianship, domestic and intercountry adoption, and other culturally acceptable forms of care that will result in protective, and permanent appropriate, family care. Preference should be given to options that optimize the child's best interests, which generally means options which provide children with fully protected legal status and parents with full legal status as parents, including full parental rights and responsibilities. The principle of subsidiarity, which gives preference to incountry solutions, should be implemented

1	within the context of a concurrent planning
2	strategy, exploring in- and out-of-country
3	options simultaneously. If an in-country
4	placement serving the child's best interest
5	and providing appropriate, protective, and
6	permanent care is not quickly available,
7	and such an international home is avail-
8	able, the child should be placed in that
9	international home without delay.
10	(ii) Interim placements.—Nothing
11	in this subsection may be construed to pre-
12	clude interim placements, including in kin-
13	ship care, foster care, and small group
14	homes, to temporarily improve children's
15	living conditions in individual cir-
16	cumstances in which—
17	(I) a permanent solution is not
18	immediately available if ongoing ef-
19	forts are made to move the child from
20	interim to permanent placement as
21	soon as possible; and
22	(II) the child's best interests will
23	be served.
24	(iii) Exceptions.—Exceptions to the
25	general rule set forth in clauses (i) and (ii)

1	may be made, as needed in individual
2	cases, to serve the child's best interests, in-
3	cluding the following:
4	(I) Permanent guardianship may
5	be preferable to adoption in certain
6	cases where the child has developed a
7	powerful bond to a loving guardian
8	who prefers not to adopt because of
9	the child's ties to birth parents who
10	love the child, but are not in a posi-
11	tion to provide appropriate nurturing.
12	(II) Options generally viewed as
13	interim solutions, such as foster care
14	and small group homes, may be pref-
15	erable to family reunification when
16	the parents are not in a position to
17	provide appropriate nurturing.
18	(III) For children with disabil-
19	ities, solutions to prevent institu-
20	tionalization and to assist with re-
21	integration into the community from
22	institutions, include payment and sup-
23	port to families, substitute families,
24	small group homes, or kinship care.

(D) Best practices.—In developing policies and programs under this Act, the Ambassador-at-Large shall identify and utilize evidence-based programs and best practices in family preservation and reunification and provision of permanent parental care through guardianship, kinship care, and domestic and intercountry adoption as derived from a wide variety of domestic, foreign, and global policies and practices.

(E) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Ambassador-at-Large, in consultation with other appropriate Federal agencies, shall provide technical assistance to governments of foreign countries to help build their child welfare capacities, particularly pertaining to family-based permanence. Such assistance should aim to strengthen family preservation and reunification and the provision of appropriate, protective, and permanent family care through kinship care, guardianship, and domestic and intercountry adoption, including assistance with—

(i) the drafting, disseminating, and implementing of legislation;

1	(ii) the development of implementing
2	systems and procedures;
3	(iii) the establishment of public, pri-
4	vate, and faith- and community-based
5	partnerships;
6	(iv) the development of workforce
7	training for governmental and nongovern-
8	mental staff; and
9	(v) infrastructure development and
10	data collection techniques necessary to
11	identify and document the number and
12	needs of children living without appro-
13	priate, protective, and permanent family
14	care.
15	(4) Responsibilities with respect to
16	INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION.—
17	(A) IN GENERAL.—The VCFS, in coordi-
18	nation with other offices of the Department of
19	State and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration
20	Services, shall have lead responsibility for rep-
21	resenting the United States Government in dis-
22	cussions, negotiations, and diplomatic contacts
23	pertaining to intercountry adoptions.
24	(B) Central authority responsibility
25	UNDER THE INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION ACT OF

2000.—Section 101(b)(2) of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14911(b)(2)) is amended by striking "Office of Children's Issues" and inserting "Office of Vulnerable Children and Family Security".

(C) Determinations of hague adoption convention compliance.—The VCFS, in consultation with other offices of the Department of State, and the Department of Homeland Security, shall have lead responsibility for determining whether a Convention partner country has met its obligations under the Hague Adoption Convention and is eligible to participate in intercountry adoptions in accordance with United States law. Such determinations shall be documented in writing, based on standardized criteria, and available for public review and comment.

(D) NEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL AGREE-MENTS.—The VCFS, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall have lead responsibility for the negotiation of bilateral agreements with other countries pertaining to intercountry adoption and in conformity with the provisions of the Hague Adoption Conven-

1	tion when the other country is a Convention
2	partner.
3	(5) Policy coordination.—The Ambassador-
4	at-Large shall coordinate with the Secretary of
5	Homeland Security and the Administrator of the
6	United States Agency for International Development
7	to maintain consistency in United States foreign and
8	domestic policy and operations with respect to chil-
9	dren living outside family care in foreign countries,
10	particularly those living without families.
11	(6) Information coordination.—The Am-
12	bassador-at-Large shall transmit—
13	(A) any intercountry adoption related case
14	information received from the Central Authority
15	of another Convention country to the Secretary
16	of Homeland Security; and
17	(B) any intercountry adoption related case
18	information that the Secretary of Homeland Se-
19	curity requests to the Central Authority of an-
20	other Convention country.
21	SEC. 102. RESPONSIBILITIES OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IM-
22	MIGRATION SERVICES FOR ACCREDITATION
23	OF ADOPTION SERVICE PROVIDERS.
24	(a) General Responsibilities Under the
25	Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000.—

- 1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Intercountry Adoption
- 2 Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–279; 114 Stat. 825)
- is amended by inserting after section 103 (42 U.S.C.
- 4 14913) the following:
- 5 "SEC. 103A. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
- 6 HOMELAND SECURITY.
- 7 "(a) Accreditation and Approval Responsibil-
- 8 ITIES.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, working
- 9 through the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration
- 10 Services, shall carry out the functions prescribed by the
- 11 Convention with respect to the accreditation of agencies
- 12 and the approval of persons to provide adoption services
- 13 in the United States in cases subject to the Convention
- 14 as provided in title II. Such functions may not be dele-
- 15 gated to any other Federal agency.
- 16 "(b) Investigations.—The Secretary of Homeland
- 17 Security shall be responsible for managing and overseeing
- 18 investigations related to the operation and services of
- 19 adoption service providers, whether directly or indirectly.
- 20 "(c) Liaison With Foreign Governments on
- 21 Post-Placement Reports and Certain Adoption
- 22 Cases.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall serve
- 23 as the liaison with foreign governments with respect to
- 24 queries about required post-placement reports and about
- 25 specific intercountry adoption cases once the adopted chil-

1	dren are living in the United States, including queries
2	about the status of adopted children who are living in the
3	United States in cases involving allegations of abuse, ne-
4	glect, abandonment, or death.".
5	(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 1 of such
6	Act is amended by inserting after the item relating
7	to section 103 the following:
	"Sec. 103A. Responsibilities of the Department of Homeland Security.".
8	(3) Conforming amendments.—Section 102
9	of such Act (42 U.S.C. 14912) is amended—
10	(A) in subsection (a), by striking "The
11	Secretary" and inserting "Except as provided
12	for under section 103A, the Secretary";
13	(B) in subsection (b), by inserting ", in co-
14	ordination with the Secretary of Homeland Se-
15	curity," after "The Secretary";
16	(C) by striking subsection (c);
17	(D) by redesignating subsections (d) and
18	(f) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and
19	(E) by striking subsection (e).
20	(b) Accreditation Responsibilities Under the
21	Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000.—
22	(1) Designation of accrediting agen-
23	CIES.—Section 202 of the Intercountry Adoption Act
24	of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14922) is amended by inserting

1	"of Homeland Security" after "Secretary" each
2	place it appears.
3	(2) Standards and procedures for pro-
4	VIDING ACCREDITATION OR APPROVAL.—Section 203
5	of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C.
6	14923) is amended by inserting "of Homeland Secu-
7	rity" after "Secretary" each place it appears in sub-
8	sections (a) and (b).
9	(3) Oversight of accreditation and ap-
10	PROVAL.—Section 204 of the Intercountry Adoption
11	Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14924) is amended—
12	(A) by inserting "of Homeland Security"
13	after "Secretary" each place it appears; and
14	(B) in subsection (c)—
15	(i) in paragraph (1), by amending the
16	paragraph heading to read as follows:
17	"(4) Authority of the secretary of
18	HOMELAND SECURITY.—"; and
19	(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking
20	"Secretary's debarment order" and insert-
21	ing "debarment order of the Secretary of
22	Homeland Security".
23	(4) Administrative provisions.—
24	(A) Access to convention records.—
25	Section 401(b) of the Intercountry Adoption

1	Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14941(b)) is amend-
2	ed—
3	(i) in paragraph (1), by inserting ",
4	the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immi-
5	gration Services," after "Secretary"; and
6	(ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting
7	"the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Im-
8	migration Services," after "Secretary,".
9	(B) Assessment of Fees.—Section
10	403(b) of the Intercountry Adoption Act of
11	2000 (42 U.S.C. 14943(b)) is amended—
12	(i) in paragraph (1)—
13	(I) by inserting "or the Director
14	of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration
15	Services" after "Secretary"; and
16	(II) by inserting "or U.S. Citi-
17	zenship and Immigration Services, re-
18	spectively," after "Department of
19	State"; and
20	(ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting "or
21	U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
22	appropriation, as the case may be," after
23	"Department of State appropriation".
24	(c) Intercountry Adoption Functions of U.S.
25	CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES.—

1	(1) Definitions.—In this subsection and in
2	section 103:
3	(A) ADOPTION SERVICE.—The term
4	"adoption service" has the meaning given the
5	term in section 3 of the Intercountry Adoption
6	Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14902).
7	(B) Associate director.—The term
8	"Associate Director" means the Associate Di-
9	rector of the Directorate.
10	(C) Directorate.—Except as otherwise
11	provided in this subsection, the term "Direc-
12	torate" means the Field Operations Directorate
13	of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.
14	(2) Intercountry adoption functions.—
15	The Associate Director shall carry out—
16	(A) the functions described in section
17	103A(a) of the Intercountry Adoption Act of
18	2000, relating to accreditation of agencies and
19	approval of persons to provide adoption serv-
20	ices;
21	(B) the functions described in section
22	103A(b) of such Act, relating to management
23	and oversight of investigations related to the
24	operation of such providers; and

1	(C) the functions described in section
2	103A(c) of such Act, relating to liaison respon-
3	sibilities regarding post-placement reports and
4	certain adoption cases.
5	(3) Informational responsibilities.—
6	(A) Database on adoption service
7	PROVIDERS.—
8	(i) In General.—The Associate Di-
9	rector shall establish and operate, in con-
10	junction with the Secretary of State, a
11	publicly accessible database of adoption
12	service providers.
13	(ii) AGREEMENT.—The Associate Di-
14	rector, the Director, and the Secretary of
15	State shall enter into an agreement under
16	which the Director and the Secretary shall
17	provide, for the database, data on inter-
18	country adoption cases relating to adoption
19	service providers.
20	(iii) Contents.—The database shall
21	include, with respect to each accredited
22	agency and approved person, who is an
23	adoption service provider individually, and
24	to the aggregate of all adoption service
25	providers—

1	(I) information identifying such a
2	provider;
3	(II) information on the accredita-
4	tion status of an agency, or the ap-
5	proval status of a person, as an adop-
6	tion service provider;
7	(III) information on the number
8	of applications or petitions filed re-
9	specting adoption and the numbers of
10	approvals and denials of the applica-
11	tions or petitions;
12	(IV) the number of substantiated
13	grievances filed with respect to an
14	adoption service provider; and
15	(V) a description of any sanc-
16	tions an adoption service provider, or
17	corrective actions that the provider is
18	required to take to maintain accredi-
19	tation or approval described in sub-
20	clause (II).
21	(B) Database on internationally
22	ADOPTED CHILDREN.—
23	(i) In General.—The Associate Di-
24	rector, in conjunction with the Secretary of
25	State, shall establish and operate a data-

1	base containing data respecting children
2	involved in intercountry adoption cases
3	who have immigrated to the United States.
4	(ii) Information tracking.—Al-
5	though the data available for adoptions fi-
6	nalized before the date of the enactment of
7	this Act will likely be incomplete, the Asso-
8	ciate Director should seek to import avail-
9	able data on all adoptions involving chil-
10	dren who are younger than 18 years of age
11	on the date of the enactment of this Act.
12	In operating the database established
13	under clause (i), the Associate Director
14	shall track information about each such
15	child before attaining United States citi-
16	zenship, including—
17	(I) information identifying a
18	child and the adoptive or prospective
19	adoptive parents, including—
20	(aa) the full name of the
21	child in the country of origin and
22	the full name of the child after
23	the adoption is finalized;

1	(bb) the gender, date of
2	birth, nationality, and citizenship
3	of the child;
4	(ce) the physical address of
5	the child at the time of the adop-
6	tion;
7	(dd) the type of visa issued
8	to the child; and
9	(ee) the date on which the
10	child entered the United States;
11	(II) information on the particular
12	adoption service provider, if any, pro-
13	viding services in the particular case;
14	and
15	(III) information on immigration
16	or citizenship status of the child.
17	(iii) Interagency agreement.—
18	The Associate Director, the Director, and
19	the Secretary of State shall enter into an
20	agreement under which the Secretary of
21	State shall provide, for the database, data
22	on intercountry adoption cases concerning
23	the adopted children, and the adoption
24	service providers.

1	SEC. 103. TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS AND SAVINGS PROVI-
2	SIONS.
3	(a) Definitions.—In this section, unless otherwise
4	provided or contextually indicated—
5	(1) the term "Federal agency" has the meaning
6	given to the term "agency" under section $551(1)$ of
7	title 5, United States Code;
8	(2) the term "function" means any duty, obli-
9	gation, power, authority, responsibility, right, privi-
10	lege, activity, or program; and
11	(3) the term "office" includes any office, ad-
12	ministration, agency, institute, unit, organizational
13	entity, or component thereof.
14	(b) Transfer of Functions.—There are trans-
15	ferred to the Directorate, all functions described in section
16	103A(a) of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000, as
17	added by section 102(a) of this Act, which were exercised
18	by the Secretary of State before the date of the enactment
19	of this Act (including all related functions of any officer
20	or employee of the Department of State), including func-
21	tions relating to—
22	(1) the accreditation of agencies and approval
23	of persons to provide adoption services;
24	(2) the management and oversight of investiga-
25	tions related to the operation of such providers; and

- 1 (3) liaison responsibilities with respect to required post-placement reports.
- 3 (c) Determinations of Certain Functions by
- 4 THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.—If nec-
- 5 essary, the Director of the Office of Management and
- 6 Budget shall make any determination with respect to the
- 7 transfer of functions under subsection (b).
- 8 (d) Personnel Provisions.—
- 9 (1) Appointments.—The Associate Director 10 may appoint and fix the compensation of such offi-11 cers and employees, including investigators, attor-12 neys, and administrative law judges, as may be nec-13 essary to carry out the respective functions trans-14 ferred under this section. Except as otherwise pro-15 vided by law, such officers and employees shall be 16 appointed in accordance with the civil service laws 17 and their compensation fixed in accordance with title 18 5, United States Code.
 - (2) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Associate Director may obtain the services of experts and consultants in accordance with section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and compensate such experts and consultants for each day (including travel time) at rates not in excess of the rate of pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of

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1	such title. The Associate Director may pay experts
2	and consultants who are serving away from their
3	homes or regular place of business travel expenses
4	and per diem in lieu of subsistence at rates author-
5	ized by sections 5702 and 5703 of such title for per-
6	sons in Government service employed intermittently
7	(e) Delegation and Assignment.—Except where
8	otherwise expressly prohibited by law or otherwise pro-
9	vided under this section—
10	(1) the Associate Director may—
11	(A) delegate any of the functions trans-
12	ferred to the Associate Director under this sec-
13	tion and any function transferred or granted to
14	the Associate Director after the date of the en-
15	actment of this Act to such officers and employ-
16	ees of the Directorate as the Associate Director
17	may designate; and
18	(B) authorize successive redelegations of
19	such functions as may be necessary or appro-
20	priate; and
21	(2) no delegation of functions by the Associate
22	Director under this subsection or under any other
23	provision of this section shall relieve such Associate
24	Director of responsibility for the administration of

such functions.

1	(f) Reorganization.—The Associate Director is au-
2	thorized—
3	(1) to allocate or reallocate any function trans-
4	ferred under subsection (b) among the officers of the
5	Directorate; and
6	(2) to establish, consolidate, alter, or dis-
7	continue such organizational entities in the Direc-
8	torate as may be necessary or appropriate.
9	(g) Rules.—The Associate Director is authorized to
10	prescribe, in accordance with the provisions of chapters
11	5 and 6 of title 5, United States Code, such rules and
12	regulations as the Associate Director determines necessary
13	or appropriate to administer and manage the functions of
14	the Directorate.
15	(h) Transfer and Allocations of Appropria-
16	TIONS AND PERSONNEL.—Except as otherwise provided
17	under this section and subject to section 1531 of title 31,
18	United States Code, the personnel employed in connection
19	with, and the assets, liabilities, contracts, property,
20	records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, au-
21	thorizations, allocations, and other funds employed, used,

22 held, arising from, available to, or to be made available

23 in connection with the functions transferred under sub-

25 pended funds transferred pursuant to this subsection may

section (b), shall be transferred to the Directorate. Unex-

1	only be used for the purposes for which the funds were
2	originally authorized and appropriated.
3	(i) Incidental Transfers.—The Director of the
4	Office of Management and Budget—
5	(1) may, at such time or times as the Director
6	may prescribe—
7	(A) make such determinations as may be
8	necessary with regard to the functions trans-
9	ferred under subsection (b); and
10	(B) make such additional incidental dis-
11	positions of personnel, assets, liabilities, grants,
12	contracts, property, records, and unexpended
13	balances of appropriations, authorizations, allo-
14	cations, and other funds held, used, arising
15	from, available to, or to be made available in
16	connection with such functions, as may be nec-
17	essary to carry out the provisions of this sec-
18	tion; and
19	(2) shall provide for—
20	(A) the termination of the affairs of all en-
21	tities terminated under this section; and
22	(B) such further measures and dispositions
23	as may be necessary to carry out the purposes
24	of this section.
25	(i) Effect on Personnel —

- (1) In General.—Except as otherwise provided under this section, the transfer under this section of full-time personnel (except special Government employees) and part-time personnel holding permanent positions shall not cause any such employee to be separated or reduced in grade or compensation during the 1-year period beginning on the date of such transfer.
 - (2) EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE POSITIONS.—Except as otherwise provided under this section, any person who, on the day preceding the date of the enactment of this Act, held a position compensated in accordance with the Executive Schedule prescribed in chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, and who, without a break in service, is appointed in the Directorate to a position having duties comparable to the duties performed immediately preceding such appointment shall continue to be compensated in such new position at not less than the rate provided for such previous position, for the duration of the service of such person in such new position.
 - (3) TERMINATION OF CERTAIN POSITIONS.—All positions whose functions are transferred under subsection (b) and whose incumbents have been appointed by the President, by and with the advice and

1 consent of the Senate, shall terminate on the date of 2 the enactment of this Act.

(k) Savings Provisions.—

- (1) Continuing effect of legal docu-Ments.—All orders, determinations, rules, regulations, permits, agreements, grants, contracts, certificates, licenses, registrations, privileges, and other administrative actions which—
 - (A) have been issued, made, granted, or allowed to become effective by the President, any Federal agency or official thereof, or by a court of competent jurisdiction, in the performance of functions which are transferred under this section; and
 - (B) are in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, or were final before such date of enactment and are to become effective on or after the date of the enactment of this Act,

shall continue in effect according to their terms until modified, terminated, superseded, set aside, or revoked in accordance with law by the President, the Associate Director or other authorized official, a court of competent jurisdiction, or by operation of law.

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(2) Proceedings not affected.—Nothing in this section may be construed to affect any proceeding, including a notice of proposed rulemaking, or any application for any license, permit, certificate, or financial assistance pending before the Department of State on the effective date of this section, with respect to functions transferred under subsection (b). Orders shall be issued in such proceedings, appeals shall be taken therefrom, and payments shall be made pursuant to such orders, as if this section had not been enacted. Orders issued in any such proceedings shall continue in effect until modified, terminated, superseded, or revoked by a duly authorized official, by a court of competent jurisdiction, or by operation of law. Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to prohibit the discontinuance or modification of any such proceeding under the same terms and conditions and to the same extent that such proceeding could have been discontinued or modified if this section had not been enacted.

(3) Suits not affected.—Nothing in this section may be construed to affect suits commenced before the date of the enactment of this Act. In all such suits, proceedings shall be had, appeals taken,

- and judgments rendered in the same manner and with the same effect as if this section had not been enacted.
- 4 (4) Nonabatement of actions.—No suit, action, or other proceeding commenced by or against the Department of State, or by or against any individual in the official capacity of such individual as an officer of the Department of State, shall abate by reason of the enactment of this section.
- 10 (5) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS RELATING TO
 11 PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS.—Any administra12 tive action relating to the preparation or promulga13 tion of a regulation by the Department of State re14 lating to a function transferred under subsection (b)
 15 may be continued by the Directorate with the same
 16 effect as if this section had not been enacted.
- 17 (l) Separability.—If a provision of this section or 18 its application to any person or circumstance is held in19 valid, neither the remainder of this section nor the applica20 tion of the provision to other persons or circumstances 21 shall be affected.
- 22 (m) Transition.—The Associate Director is author-23 ized to utilize—
- 24 (1) the services of such officers, employees, and 25 other personnel of the Department of State with re-

1	spect to functions transferred to the Directorate by
2	this section; and
3	(2) funds appropriated to such functions for
4	such period of time as may reasonably be needed to
5	facilitate the orderly implementation of this section.
6	(n) References.—Reference in any other Federal
7	law, Executive order, rule, regulation, or delegation of au-
8	thority, or any document of or relating to—
9	(1) the Secretary of State with regard to func-
10	tions transferred under subsection (b), shall be
11	deemed to refer to the Associate Director; and
12	(2) the Department of State with regard to
13	functions transferred under subsection (b), shall be
14	deemed to refer to the Directorate.
15	(o) Additional Conforming Amendments.—
16	(1) RECOMMENDED LEGISLATION.—After con-
17	sultation with the appropriate committees of Con-
18	gress and the Director of the Office of Management
19	and Budget, the Associate Director shall prepare
20	and submit to Congress recommended legislation
21	containing technical and conforming amendments to
22	reflect the changes made by this section.
23	(2) Submission to congress.—Not later than
24	180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,

the Associate Director shall submit the rec-

1	ommended legislation referred to under paragraph
2	(1) to Congress.
3	SEC. 104. RESPONSIBILITIES OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IM-
4	MIGRATION SERVICES FOR ADOPTION-RE-
5	LATED CASE PROCESSING.
6	(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
7	rity, acting through the Director of U.S. Citizenship and
8	Immigration Services—
9	(1) shall be responsible for processing and case-
10	specific decisionmaking on all intercountry adoption
11	cases (up to the point of application for an immi-
12	grant visa on behalf of the adopted child), including
13	cases being processed pursuant to the Intercountry
14	Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14901 et seq.) and
15	section 2 of the Intercountry Adoption Universal Ac-
16	creditation Act of 2012 (42 U.S.C. 14925);
17	(2) shall ensure that all intercountry adoption
18	suitability and eligibility determinations of prospec-
19	tive adoptive parents required under subparagraph
20	(F) or (G) of section 101(b)(1) of the Immigration
21	and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1)) are made
22	in accordance with standard criteria that comply
23	with the Hague Adoption Convention so that any
24	such determination justifies a Convention adoption
25	or a non-Convention adoption;

- (3) to the maximum extent possible, and to the extent permitted by the country in which the child resides, shall ensure that all non-Convention adoption cases undergo preprocessing, including—
 - (A) the filing of a petition and the review of a child's eligibility to immigrate to the United States before the adoption or grant of legal custody (for purposes of emigration and adoption in the United States) of that child is completed in the country of origin; and
 - (B) the completion of all necessary and relevant investigations associated with the petition before the country of origin finalizes the adoption or grants legal custody for purposes of emigration and adoption in the United States;
 - (4) except as provided in paragraph (5), shall be responsible for all case processing steps in Convention and non-Convention adoption petitions on behalf of children whom United States parents propose to immigrate to the United States (except for the processing of immigrant visas), including processing of all necessary Hague Adoption Convention certifications and the final adjudication of the immigration petitions; and

1	(5) may delegate the responsibility for com-
2	pleting certain elements of case adjudication to the
3	Secretary of State if the Department of Homeland
4	Security—
5	(A) cannot adequately complete such ele-
6	ments due to the need for physical presence in
7	the country of origin or other processing-related
8	circumstances; and
9	(B) defines and monitors the parameters
10	for the elements delegated to the Secretary of
11	State and retains final decisionmaking author-
12	ity.
13	(b) Foreign Adoption Decrees.—
14	(1) Convention countries.—The 2-year
15	legal custody and joint residence requirements set
16	forth in section 101(b)(1)(E) of the Immigration
17	and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1)(E)) shall
18	not apply if the documentation submitted on behalf
19	of a child includes—
20	(A) an adoption decree issued by a com-
21	petent authority (as such term is used in the
22	Hague Adoption Convention) of the child's
23	country of origin and evidence that the adoption
24	was granted in compliance with the Hague
25	Adoption Convention; or

1	(B) a custody or guardianship decree
2	issued by the competent authority of the child's
3	country of origin to the adoptive parents, and
4	a final adoption decree, verifying that the adop-
5	tion of the child was later finalized outside the
6	United States by the adoptive parents, in addi-
7	tion to evidence that the custody or guardian-
8	ship was granted in compliance with the Hague
9	Adoption Convention.
10	(2) Substantial compliance with hague
11	ADOPTION CONVENTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
12	apply unless—
13	(A) on the date on which the underlying
14	adoption, custody, or guardianship decree was
15	issued by the child's country of origin—
16	(i) that country's adoption procedures
17	complied with the requirements of the
18	Hague Adoption Convention (as deter-
19	mined by the United States central author-
20	ity); and
21	(ii) the competent authority of the
22	country of origin certified that the adop-
23	tion is consistent with Article 23 of the
24	Hague Adoption Convention; and

1	(B) the adoption was a Convention adop-
2	tion that was completed between 2 Convention
3	countries other than the United States.
4	(3) Non-convention countries.—The Sec-
5	retary of Homeland Security may accept the filing of
6	petitions on behalf of children living in non-Conven-
7	tion countries in the absence of a final adoption de-
8	cree.
9	(c) Cooperation With Foreign Governments.—
10	The Secretary of Homeland Security may interact directly
11	with the central authority of a Convention country or a
12	competent authority of a non-Convention country, as ap-
13	propriate—
14	(1) to facilitate the processing of intercountry
15	adoption cases, including making habitual residence
16	determinations relevant to children and prospective
17	adoptive parents in adoption proceedings; and
18	(2) to negotiate, in coordination with the De-
19	partment of State, and to implement bilateral agree-
20	ments with respect to intercountry adoptions.
21	(d) Amendments to the Intercountry Adop-
22	TION ACT OF 2000.—
23	(1) Transfer of responsibilities to the
24	SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—The Inter-

1	country Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14901 et
2	seq.) is amended—
3	(A) by striking "Attorney General" each
4	place it appears and inserting "Secretary of
5	Homeland Security'; and
6	(B) in the heading of section 103, by strik-
7	ing "ATTORNEY GENERAL" and inserting
8	"SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY".
9	(2) Hague convention certificates.—Sec-
10	tion 301 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 14931) is amend-
11	ed—
12	(A) in subsection (a)—
13	(i) in the subsection heading, by strik-
14	ing "Secretary of State" and inserting
15	"Secretary of Homeland Security";
16	and
17	(ii) in the heading to paragraph (1),
18	by striking "Secretary of State" and
19	inserting "Secretary of Homeland Se-
20	CURITY"; and
21	(B) by striking "Secretary of State" each
22	place it appears and inserting "Secretary of
23	Homeland Security''.

1	(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
2	tents of such Act is amended by striking the item
3	relating to section 103 and inserting the following:
	"Sec. 103. Responsibilities of the Secretary of Homeland Security.".
4	(e) Definition of Child.—Section 101(b)(1) of the
5	Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1))
6	is amended—
7	(1) in subparagraph (E)—
8	(A) in clause (i), by striking "(i) a child
9	adopted while under the age of sixteen years"
10	and inserting "a child adopted while younger
11	than 18 years of age"; and
12	(B) by striking clause (ii);
13	(2) by amending subparagraph (F) to read as
14	follows:
15	"(F)(i) a child, younger than 18 years of
16	age at the time a petition is filed on the child's
17	behalf to accord a classification as an imme-
18	diate relative under section 201(b), and who
19	has been adopted in a foreign state that is not
20	a party to the Convention on Protection of Chil-
21	dren and Co-operation in Respect of Inter-
22	country Adoption, done at The Hague May 29,
23	1993, or who is emigrating from such a foreign
24	state to be adopted in the United States by a
25	United States citizen and spouse jointly, or by

1	an unmarried United States citizen who is at
2	least 25 years of age, if—
3	"(I) the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
4	rity is satisfied that proper care will be
5	furnished the child if admitted to the
6	United States;
7	"(II) the child's natural parents (or
8	parent, in the case of a child who has 1
9	sole or surviving parent), or other persons
10	or institutions that retain legal custody of
11	the child, have freely given their written ir-
12	revocable consent to the termination of
13	their legal relationship with the child, and
14	to the child's emigration and adoption;
15	"(III) the child has a living parent or
16	parents who has or have relinquished, or
17	will relinquish, the child voluntarily for the
18	purposes of intercountry adoption, and the
19	parent or parents are incapable of pro-
20	viding proper care for the child;
21	"(IV) the Secretary of Homeland Se-
22	curity, after considering whether there is a
23	petition pending to confer immigrant sta-
24	tus on 1 or both natural parents, is satis-
25	fied that the purpose of the adoption is to

1	form a bona fide parent-child relationship,
2	and the parent-child relationship of the
3	child and the natural parents has been ter-
4	minated; and
5	"(V) in the case of a child who has
6	not been adopted—
7	"(aa) the competent authority of
8	the foreign state has approved the
9	child's emigration to the United
10	States for the purpose of adoption by
11	the prospective adoptive parent or
12	parents; and
13	"(bb) the prospective adoptive
14	parent or parents has or have com-
15	plied with any preadoption require-
16	ments of the child's proposed resi-
17	dence; and
18	"(ii) except that no natural parent or prior
19	adoptive parent of any such child shall there-
20	after, by virtue of such parentage, be accorded
21	any right, privilege, or status under this chap-
22	ter;"; and
23	(3) in subparagraph (G)—
24	(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by
25	striking "16" and inserting "18";

1	(B) in clause (i)—
2	(i) in subclause (II), by striking "be-
3	cause of the death or disappearance of,
4	abandonment or desertion by, the other
5	parent"; and
6	(ii) in subclause (III), by striking
7	"two living natural parents, the natural
8	parents are" and inserting "a living parent
9	or parents, who have relinquished or will
10	relinquish the child voluntarily for the pur-
11	poses of intercountry adoption, the parent
12	or parents are";
13	(C) in clause (ii), by striking "; or" and in-
14	serting a period; and
15	(D) by striking clause (iii).
16	(f) Relative Adoptions; Waiver Authority.—
17	Section 502 of the Intercountry Adoption Act (42 U.S.C.
18	14952) is amended to read as follows:
19	"(a) Authority To Establish Alternative Pro-
20	CEDURES FOR ADOPTION OF CHILDREN BY RELATIVES.—
21	Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment
22	of the Children in Families First Act of 2014, the Sec-
23	retary of Homeland Security shall establish, by regulation,
24	alternative procedures for completing the intercountry

- 1 adoption of children by United States citizens who are re-
- 2 lated to such children by blood, marriage, or adoption.
- 3 "(b) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Home-
- 4 land Security, acting through the Director of U.S. Citizen-
- 5 ship and Immigration Services, may waive, on a case-by-
- 6 case basis, applicable requirements for meeting the defini-
- 7 tion of a child under subparagraph (E), (F), or (G) of
- 8 section 101(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act
- 9 (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1)), or regulations issued with respect
- 10 to such definitions, in the interests of justice or to prevent
- 11 or respond to the threat of grave physical or emotional
- 12 harm to the child if the petitioner establishes that—
- 13 "(1) the child substantially complies with the
- requirements under 1 of such subparagraphs; and
- 15 "(2) such a waiver would be in the child's best
- interests.".
- 17 (g) Determination of Applicability of the
- 18 Hague Adoption Convention in Certain Cases.—
- 19 The Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the
- 20 Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,
- 21 may determine, on a case-by-case basis, that a specific
- 22 intercountry adoption case may proceed as a non-Conven-
- 23 tion adoption if—
- 24 (1) the child's country of origin or habitual res-
- 25 idence is a Convention country;

1	(2) the central authority of the child's country
2	of origin or habitual residence has issued, or will
3	issue, an adoption decree which that country con-
4	siders to be legal and valid under that country's laws
5	to the United States adoptive or prospective adoptive
6	parents; and
7	(3) the central authority of the child's country
8	of origin or habitual residence has informed the Sec-
9	retary or the Director that it does not consider the
10	specific case to fall within the scope of the Hague
11	Adoption Convention.
12	(h) Special Use of Parole Authority.—
13	(1) In General.—The Secretary of Homeland
14	Security, acting through the Director of U.S. Citi-
15	zenship and Immigration Services, may grant parole
16	to a child if the Secretary or the Director determines
17	that—
18	(A) the child's circumstances indicate that
19	immediate unification with the parties seeking
20	parole is in the child's best interests;
21	(B) waiting to complete other, more time
22	consuming immigration processing could be sig-
23	nificantly harmful to the child's well-being;
24	(C) the party or parties seeking parole on
25	behalf of the child—

1	(i) have a pre-existing legal relation-
2	ship with the child, as evidenced by an
3	adoption decree or a custody order; or
4	(ii) demonstrate a pre-existing rela-
5	tionship with the child and an intent to es-
6	tablish a legal relationship with the child,
7	which may be evidenced by—
8	(I) a familial relationship with
9	the child;
10	(II) a close personal relationship
11	with the child, such as—
12	(aa) being matched with the
13	child for an international adop-
14	tion by an adoption service pro-
15	vider or the competent authority
16	of the child's country of origin;
17	or
18	(bb) documentation showing
19	that the child's parents, if de-
20	ceased or otherwise incapacitated
21	and unable to provide proper care
22	for the child, intended for the
23	parties seeking parole to take
24	custody of the child; or

1	(III) the filing of adoption-re-
2	lated applications or petitions related
3	to the adoption of the child; and
4	(D) the child will receive proper care in the
5	United States by the party or parties who seek
6	parole on behalf of the child, based on a review
7	of the suitability of the party or parties, which
8	may include background check or completion of
9	a home study conducted by a competent author-
10	ity.
11	(2) Meeting the 2-year periods for the
12	PURPOSES OF FILING AN IMMEDIATE RELATIVE PE-
13	TITION ON BEHALF OF AN ADOPTED CHILD.—If a
14	child is granted parole under paragraph (1), is sub-
15	sequently adopted by the parties who sought parole,
16	and such parties seek permanent immigration status
17	for the child under section 101(b)(1)(E) of the Im-
18	migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
19	1101(b)(1)(E))—
20	(A) the 2-year period for legal custody of
21	the child shall begin to accrue on the effective
22	date of a grant of custody in the child's country
23	of origin or habitual residence or in the United
24	States;

1	(B) the 2-year period for physical custody
2	of the child shall begin to accrue on the date on
3	which the party or parties seeking parole for
4	the child begin joint residence with the child, in
5	the child's country of origin or habitual resi-
6	dence or in the United States; and
7	(C) the 2-year periods of joint residence
8	and legal custody may accrue within or outside
9	the United States.
10	(i) Rulemaking.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
11	rity, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the
12	Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services,
13	shall issue regulations to carry out this section and the
14	amendments made by this section.
15	TITLE II—ANNUAL REPORTING
	TITLE II—ANNUAL REPORTING SEC. 201. ANNUAL REPORT ON CHILDREN LIVING WITHOUT
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15 16	SEC. 201. ANNUAL REPORT ON CHILDREN LIVING WITHOUT
15 16 17	SEC. 201. ANNUAL REPORT ON CHILDREN LIVING WITHOUT FAMILIES.
15 16 17 18	SEC. 201. ANNUAL REPORT ON CHILDREN LIVING WITHOUT FAMILIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30,
15 16 17 18 19	FAMILIES. (a) In General.—Not later than September 30, 2014, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State, in
15 16 17 18 19 20	FAMILIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 2014, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of the United States Agen-
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	FAMILIES. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 2014, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of the United States Agency for International Development and the Secretary of

1	(1) identifies the number of children living
2	without families; and
3	(2) describes the degree to which the various
4	family permanence solutions are being utilized.
5	(b) CONTENT.—The report required under subsection
6	(a) shall include—
7	(1) a description of the world's unparented chil-
8	dren, including—
9	(A) a description and quantitative analysis
10	of the world's unparented children by country,
11	identifying the nationality of the children phys-
12	ically present in each country and distin-
13	guishing among children who are citizens of the
14	country, noncitizen children lawfully present in
15	the country, and noncitizen children unlawfully
16	in the country, irrespective of a child's par-
17	ticular immigration status; and
18	(B) available data about such children bro-
19	ken into detailed categories and including—
20	(i) information on their nationality,
21	age, gender, and status;
22	(ii) whether they have a living parent
23	or parents and the status of those parents;

1	(iii) whether the unparented children
2	are considered abandoned, separated, relin-
3	quished, or have some other status;
4	(iv) whether they are institutionalized
5	or homeless;
6	(v) information on how they are docu-
7	mented, including through birth registries,
8	orphanage registries, United Nations High
9	Commissioner for Refugees registration, or
10	identity cards; and
11	(vi) an assessment of their living con-
12	ditions based on indicators such as crude
13	mortality rate, malnutrition rate, or other
14	similar indicators;
15	(2) a review of the previous fiscal year's pro-
16	gramming in support of appropriate, protective, and
17	permanent family care solutions, including project
18	descriptions for each project by country, goals of
19	each project, amount awarded for each project, and
20	evaluation of outcomes during the fiscal year;
21	(3) an action plan covering proposed program-
22	ming and activities for the next fiscal year in sup-
23	port of family permanency solutions, including goals
24	for each country in which programming will occur,
25	proposed allocations of resources by country, types

- of projects proposed by country, amounts of awards proposed for each project, and desired outcomes for each country;
 - (4) a review of trends over the last five years, including changes in the numbers and locations of unparented children and the reasons for the changes, such as new refugee arrivals, growing numbers of children abandoned at birth, and decreases in number of children in institutions;
 - (5) an overall analysis of highest priority situations of concern for unparented children, including analysis of whether the children are in a location that provides a cooperative environment for assistance programming and intercountry adoptions;
 - (6) a description of how intercountry adoption and refugee resettlement for unparented refugee children has played a role in each country over the last 10 years and the current status of such programs, including analysis of the situation with respect to the Hague Adoption Convention and how the Convention has affected intercountry adoptions from the country;
 - (7) aggregate reporting on intercountry adoptions to the United States, distinguishing between

1	Convention adoptions and non-Convention adoptions
2	and including—

- (A) the total number of intercountry adoptions involving immigration to the United States by year over the past 10 years and projected data for the next fiscal year, distinguishing between Convention and non-Convention adoptions, including aggregate data on the country from which each child emigrated, the State of residence of the adoptive parents, and the country in which the adoption was finalized;
- (B) the number of intercountry adoptions involving emigration from the United States, regardless of whether the adoption occurred under the Convention and distinguishing between Convention and non-Convention adoptions, including the country to which each child immigrated and the State from which each child emigrated;
- (C) the average time required for completion of the immigration portion of intercountry adoptions, distinguishing between Convention and non-Convention adoptions, calculated as the time between filing of the initial immigrationrelated adoption petition on behalf of a child

1	and the approval of that child's immigrant visa
2	and
3	(D) the range of adoption fees charged in
4	connection with intercountry adoptions involv-
5	ing immigration to the United States and the
6	median of such fees; and
7	(8) such additional information as may be re-
8	quested by members of the Committee on Foreign
9	Relations of the Senate and the Committee on For-
10	eign Affairs of the House of Representatives.
11	(c) Consultations.—To the extent possible, des-
12	ignated representatives of the President should meet with
13	members of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
14	Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
15	House of Representatives not later than 2 weeks before
16	the Secretary of State submits the report required under
17	subsection (a) to discuss the information described in sub-
18	section (b). The substance of such consultations should be
19	printed in the Congressional Record.
20	(d) Repeal.—Section 104 of the Intercountry Adop-
21	tion Act (42 U.S.C. 14914) is repealed.

1	SEC. 202. COUNTRY REPORTS REGARDING SEVERE FORMS
2	OF TRAFFICKING.
3	Section 502B(h)(1)(B) of the Foreign Assistance Act
4	of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(h)(1)(B)) is amended by adding
5	at the end the following:
6	"(x) What steps the government of that
7	country has taken to reduce the number of chil-
8	dren living outside of family care.
9	"(xi) What steps the government of that
10	country has taken to reduce the number of chil-
11	dren abused, neglected, or exploited.".
12	TITLE III—PROMOTION OF A
13	COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH
14	FOR CHILDREN IN ADVER-
15	SITY
16	SEC. 301. ESTABLISHMENT OF A USAID CENTER FOR EX-
17	CELLENCE FOR CHILDREN IN ADVERSITY.
18	(a) Center for Excellence for Children in
19	Adversity.—
20	(1) In general.—There is established within
21	the United States Agency for International Develop-
22	ment a Center of Excellence on Children in Adver-
23	sity.
24	
	(2) COORDINATOR.—The Center for Excellence
25	shall be headed by the Children in Adversity Coordi-

- of the United States Agency for International Devel-1 2 opment.
- (3) Objectives.—The Center of Excellence on 3 4 Children in Adversity shall work in consultation with 5 the Ambassador-at-Large of the Office of Vulnerable 6 Children and Family Security of the Department of State to promote greater United States Government 7 8 coherence and accountability for whole-of-govern-9 ment assistance to children in adversity and ensure 10 that United States foreign assistance and development programs are focused on the following objec-12 tives:
 - (A) The sound development of children through the integration of health, nutrition, and family support.
 - (B) Supporting and enabling families to care for children through family preservation, reunification, and support of kinship care, guardianship, and domestic and intercountry adoption.
 - (C) Facilitating the efforts of national governments and partners to prevent, respond to, and protect children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect.

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(4) Authorities.—The Children in Adversity
Coordinator, acting through nongovernmental orga-
nizations (including faith-based and community-
based organizations), partner country finance
health, education, social welfare, and other min-
istries, and relevant executive branch agencies, is au-
thorized to—
(A) operate internationally to carry out the
programs and activities outlined in the Action
Plan for Children in Adversity;
(B) provide grants to, and enter into con-
tracts and cooperative agreements with, non-
governmental organizations (including faith-
based organizations) to carry out this section
and
(C) transfer and allocate United States
Agency for International Development funds
that have been appropriated for the purposes
described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).
(5) Functions.—In consultation with the Am-
bassador-at-Large of the Office of Vulnerable Chil-
dren and Family Security in the Department of
State, the Children in Adversity Coordinator shall

through the Center of Excellence—

1	(A) facilitate program and policy coordina-
2	tion related to the goals and objectives of the
3	Action Plan for Children in Adversity among
4	relevant executive branch agencies and non-
5	governmental organizations by auditing, moni-
6	toring, and evaluating such programs;
7	(B) ensure that each relevant executive
8	branch agency undertakes responsibility for ac-
9	tivities related primarily to those areas in which
10	the agency has the greatest expertise, technical
11	capability, and potential for success;
12	(C) coordinate relevant executive branch
13	agency activities related to the Action Plan for
14	Children in Adversity;
15	(D) establish due diligence criteria for all
16	recipients of funds appropriated by the United
17	States Government for assistance to children in
18	adversity; and
19	(E) oversee the administration of the pri-
20	ority country demonstration program as de-
21	scribed in subsection (f).
22	(6) Assistance.—The President is authorized
23	to provide assistance, including through inter-
24	national, nongovernmental, or faith-based organiza-

tions, for programs in developing countries—

1	(A) to increase the percentage of children
2	achieving age-appropriate growth and develop-
3	mental milestones;
4	(B) to increase the percentage of children
5	under 5 years of age demonstrating secure at-
6	tachment with a primary caregiver;
7	(C) to integrate health, nutrition, develop-
8	mental protections, and caregiving support for
9	vulnerable children and their families;
10	(D) to increase the percentage of children
11	living within appropriate, permanent, safe, and
12	protective family care, through family preserva-
13	tion and reunification, and through kinship
14	care, guardianship, and domestic and inter-
15	country adoption, and to reduce the percentage
16	of children living in institutions;
17	(E) to increase the percentage of families
18	providing adequate nutrition, education oppor-
19	tunities, care, and protection for their children;
20	(F) to reduce the percentage of children
21	who experience violence, exploitation, abuse,
22	and neglect;
23	(G) to increase the percentage of children
24	who receive appropriate care and protection

1	after experiencing violence, exploitation, abuse,
2	or neglect;
3	(H) to increase public awareness that vio-
4	lence, exploitation, abuse, or neglect of children
5	as unacceptable;
6	(I) to increase the percentage of countries
7	that ratify and implement relevant conventions
8	or formally adopt internationally recognized
9	principles, standards, and procedural safe-
10	guards to protect children from violence, exploi-
11	tation, abuse, and neglect;
12	(J) to increase the percentage of children
13	who have legal documentation and birth reg-
14	istration;
15	(K) to increase the number of laws, poli-
16	cies, and practices in partner states that pro-
17	mote and strengthen child welfare and protec-
18	tion at household, community, and national lev-
19	els is increased;
20	(L) to increase national and local human
21	resource capacity for child welfare and protec-
22	tion;
23	(M) to increase the number of national and
24	community systems effectively monitoring child

1	welfare and protection concerns, programs, and
2	outcomes;
3	(N) to encourage and assist in the collec-
4	tion of data related to children outside of family
5	$\operatorname{care};$
6	(O) to increase the number of prevalence
7	studies that measure and track trends in chil-
8	dren's exposure to violence, exploitation, abuse,
9	and neglect;
10	(P) to increase the number of published
11	outcome/impact evaluations on interventions to
12	assist children outside of family care or mini-
13	mize exposure to violence, exploitation, abuse,
14	and neglect that can be generalized to larger
15	target groups;
16	(Q) to increase the number of national
17	governments and universities leading rigorous
18	data collection, research, and monitoring and
19	evaluation studies related to child welfare and
20	protection; and
21	(R) to increase the number of United
22	States Government-supported interventions for
23	children in adversity designed using data from
24	rigorous research methodologies.
25	(b) Monitoring and Evaluation.—

1	(1) Establishment of system.—To maxi-
2	mize the sustainable development impact of assist-
3	ance authorized under this section, and pursuant to
4	the primary objective of the Action Plan for Chil-
5	dren in Adversity, the President shall establish a
6	monitoring and evaluation system to measure the ef-
7	fectiveness of United States assistance to children in
8	adversity.
9	(2) Requirements.—The monitoring and eval-
10	uation system shall—

- uation system shall—
 - (A) be aligned with the objectives and outcomes outlined by the Action Plan for Children in Adversity; and
- (B) provide a basis for recommendations for adjustments to the assistance provided under this part.
- 17 Priority Country Demonstration Pro-18 GRAM.—
- 19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the 20 United States Agency for International Develop-21 ment, in consultation with the Secretary of State, 22 shall establish and carry out a priority country dem-23 onstration program implementing the Action Plan for Children in Adversity over a period of 5 years in 24 25 at least 6 countries.

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1	(2) Purposes.—The purposes of the programs
2	established under subparagraph (1) shall be—
3	(A) to demonstrate how research-based
4	policies and programs to achieve the core objec-
5	tives of the Action Plan for Children in Adver-
6	sity can be successfully implemented on a na-
7	tional level;
8	(B) to establish model programs that, once
9	tested for efficacy, will be available for replica-
10	tion on a global basis;
11	(C) to identify a comprehensive series of
12	interventions which result in meeting the out-
13	comes and objectives of the Action Plan for
14	Children in Adversity; and
15	(D) to determine which in-country factors
16	advance or negate the successful achievement of
17	the outcomes and objectives of the action plan.
18	(3) Criteria for selection of coun-
19	TRIES.—The criteria for selection of countries shall
20	include—
21	(A) magnitude and severity of the prob-
22	lems to be addressed;
23	(B) partner country interest in participa-
24	tion in a comprehensive implementation of all 3
25	goals of the Action Plan for Children in Adver-

1	sity, including, with respect to the second objec-
2	tive (Families First), expressed willingness to
3	support the full complement of permanence so-
4	lutions (including family preservation, reunifica-
5	tion, kinship care, guardianship, and domestic
6	and intercountry adoption), and commitments
7	to support and allow monitoring and evaluation,
8	as well as transparent reporting;
9	(C) potential to leverage bilateral, multilat-
10	eral, and foundation investments;
11	(D) potential to leverage other United
12	States development investments;
13	(E) regional diversity to maximize learning
14	opportunities; and
15	(F) level of economic development, with a
16	focus on low- and middle-income countries.
17	(d) Repeals.—
18	(1) Assistance to orphans and other vul-
19	NERABLE CHILDREN.—Section 135 of the Foreign
20	Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2152f) is re-
21	pealed.
22	(2) Annual Report.—Section 5 of the Assist-
23	ance for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children in
24	Developing Countries Act of 2005 (22 U.S.C.
25	2152g) is hereby repealed.

TITLE IV—FUNDING AND EFFECTIVE DATES

SEC. 401. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPE	RIATIONS.
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- (a) Prohibition on New Appropriations.—
- 5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act may be 6 construed as authorizing additional funds to be ap-7 propriated to carry out this Act or the amendments 8 made by this Act.
 - (2) USE OF EXISTING FUNDS.—This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall be carried out using amounts otherwise available for such purposes, including unobligated balances of funds made available to carry out activities under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.).
 - (b) Limitations on Use of Funds.—
 - (1) United Nations.—No funds obligated in accordance with this Act may be awarded to the United Nations or any of its subsidiaries.
 - (2) Segregated services.—No funds obligated in accordance with this Act may be awarded for building, renovating, or refurbishing residential facilities that segregate children with disabilities from society. The limitation under this paragraph does not prohibit funding for small, community-based group homes that house up to 6 children.

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1	(3) Administrative expenses.—Not more
2	than 2 percent of the amounts described in sub-
3	section (a)(2) may be used for administrative ex-
4	penses.
5	(c) Focus of Assistance provided
6	under this Act—
7	(1) shall focus primarily on promoting inter-
8	national child welfare, as set forth in this Act, for
9	all children in adversity; and
10	(2) may be provided on such terms and condi-
11	tions as the President determines appropriate.
12	SEC. 402. EFFECTIVE DATES.
13	(a) Effective Upon Enactment.—Sections 104
14	and 202 and titles III and IV shall take effect on the date
15	of the enactment of this Act.
16	(b) Delayed Effective Date.—Sections 101

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 $18\,$ $\,$ 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

17 102, 103, and 201 shall take effect on the date that is