

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3074

To amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for studies and reports relating to the impact of legislation on spending on children, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 14, 2018

Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. CASEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Budget

A BILL

To amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for studies and reports relating to the impact of legislation on spending on children, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Focus on Children
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDIES AND REPORTS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL**
 2 **BUDGET OFFICE RELATING TO THE IMPACT**
 3 **OF LEGISLATION ON SPENDING ON CHIL-**
 4 **DREN.**

5 Section 202(g) of the Congressional Budget Act of
 6 1974 (2 U.S.C. 602(g)) is amended—

7 (1) in the heading, by inserting “AND REPORTS
 8 TO CONGRESS” after “STUDIES”; and

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

10 “(3) SPENDING ON CHILDREN STUDIES AND
 11 REPORTS.—

12 “(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

13 “(i) the term ‘budget of the President’
 14 means the budget of the President sub-
 15 mitted to Congress under section 1105(a)
 16 of title 31, United States Code;

17 “(ii) the term ‘child’ means an indi-
 18 vidual under 19 years of age;

19 “(iii) the term ‘key indicator’ includes
 20 information relating to the outlays de-
 21 scribed in subclause (I), (II), (III), or (IV)
 22 of clause (iv); and

23 “(iv) the term ‘spending on children’
 24 includes—

25 “(I) outlays under an entitlement
 26 authority that go directly to children;

1 “(II) outlays for a Federal pro-
2 gram or initiative that, consistent
3 with the mission of the program or
4 initiative, delivers services exclusively
5 to children;

6 “(III) outlays for a Federal pro-
7 gram or initiative that, while not serv-
8 ing children directly, has as a core
9 mission goal the improvement of the
10 health, education, welfare, or general
11 well-being of children; and

12 “(IV) for a Federal program or
13 initiative that delivers services to both
14 children and adults, the portion of
15 outlays under the program or initia-
16 tive attributable to providing benefits
17 for children, based on the best avail-
18 able data.

19 “(B) STUDIES.—At the request of the
20 Chairman or Ranking Member of a committee
21 of the Senate or the House of Representatives,
22 the Director shall, to the extent practicable,
23 conduct a study of a bill, joint resolution,
24 amendment, amendment between the Houses,

1 or conference report containing changes in
2 spending on children.

3 “(C) ANNUAL REPORTS ON SPENDING.—
4 Not later than 15 days after the last day of
5 each fiscal year, the Director shall submit to
6 Congress a report that includes—

7 “(i) information and data regarding
8 spending on children under appropriation
9 Acts, including continuing resolutions, for
10 that fiscal year;

11 “(ii) information and data regarding
12 spending on children under an entitlement
13 authority for that fiscal year;

14 “(iii) the share of Federal spending
15 that constitutes spending on children
16 under appropriation Acts, including con-
17 tinuing resolutions, for that fiscal year;
18 and

19 “(iv) the share of Federal spending
20 that constitutes spending on children
21 under an entitlement authority for that fis-
22 cal year.

23 “(D) ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE BUDGET
24 OF THE PRESIDENT.—Not later than 15 days
25 after the date on which the President submits

1 to Congress the budget of the President for a
2 fiscal year, the Director shall submit to Con-
3 gress a report on the budget of the President
4 that includes, for the prior fiscal year, the cur-
5 rent fiscal year, the fiscal year for which the
6 budget of the President is submitted, and the
7 ensuing fiscal year—

8 “(i) a summary of the total amount of
9 the appropriations or new obligational au-
10 thority and outlays requested for spending
11 on children;

12 “(ii) an estimate of the level of spend-
13 ing on children;

14 “(iii) an estimate of the share of Fed-
15 eral spending that constitutes spending on
16 children; and

17 “(iv) an estimate of the date on which
18 Federal spending on children will be less
19 than outlays for interest on the public
20 debt.

21 “(E) WARNING REPORTS.—

22 “(i) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion
23 of the Director, the Director may provide
24 a warning report to Congress regarding a
25 fiscal year in which outlays for interest on

the public debt will exceed spending on children.

“(ii) CONTENTS OF WARNING REPORTS.—The Director may include in a report issued under clause (i) a list of possible budgetary options that may be used by Congress in order to prevent such an imbalance between outlays for interest on the public debt and spending on children.

“(F) OPEN DATA AND TRANSPARENCY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall publish all of the reports and studies required under this paragraph in a publicly accessible format, including through—

“(I) the dashboard described in clause (ii); and

“(II) the open data portal described in clause (iii).

“(ii) DASHBOARD.—The Director shall develop and maintain on an Internet website available to the public a tool (commonly referred to as a ‘dashboard’) that—

“(I) highlights the key indicators identified in the reports and studies required under this paragraph; and

1 “(II) uses visualization tools to
2 assist the public in understanding
3 trends in spending on children over
4 periods of time.

5 “(iii) OPEN DATA PORTAL.—The Di-
6 rector shall develop and maintain an Inter-
7 net website available to the public that—

8 “(I) provides raw quantitative
9 data relating to spending on children
10 contained in reports and studies re-
11 quired under this paragraph;

12 “(II) provides that data in a
13 widely-accessible file format that al-
14 lows the public to analyze the data;
15 and

16 “(III) categorizes that data by
17 budget account.”.

○