

(1) The aggregate cost of operation and the aggregate volume of services.

(2) The costs and volume of services for various functional accounts and subaccounts.

(3) Rates, by category of patient and class of purchaser.

(4) Capital assets, as defined by the Secretary, including (as appropriate) capital funds, debt service, lease agreements used in lieu of capital funds, and the value of land, facilities, and equipment.

(5) Discharge and bill data.

The uniform reporting system for a type of health services facility or organization shall provide for appropriate variation in the application of the system to different classes of facilities or organizations within that type and shall be established, to the extent practicable, consistent with the cooperative system for producing comparable and uniform health information and statistics described in section 242k(e)(1) of this title. In reporting under such a system, hospitals shall employ such chart of accounts, definitions, principles, and statistics as the Secretary may prescribe in order to reach a uniform reconciliation of financial and statistical data for specified uniform reports to be provided to the Secretary.

(b) Monitoring, etc., of systems by Secretary

The Secretary shall—

(1) monitor the operation of the systems established under subsection (a);

(2) assist with and support demonstrations and evaluations of the effectiveness and cost of the operation of such systems and encourage State adoption of such systems; and

(3) periodically revise such systems to improve their effectiveness and diminish their cost.

(c) Availability of information to appropriate agencies and organizations

The Secretary shall provide information obtained through use of the uniform reporting systems described in subsection (a) in a useful manner and format to appropriate agencies and organizations, including health systems agencies (designated under section 300l-4¹ of this title) and State health planning and development agencies (designated under section 300m¹ of this title), as may be necessary to carry out such agencies' and organizations' functions.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XI, §1121, as added Pub. L. 95-142, §19(a), Oct. 25, 1977, 91 Stat. 1203.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 300l-4 of this title, referred to in subsec. (c), was repealed effective Jan. 1, 1987, by Pub. L. 99-660, title VII, §701(a), Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3799.

Section 300m of this title, referred to in subsec. (c), was in the original a reference to section 1521 of act July 1, 1944, which was repealed effective Jan. 1, 1987, by Pub. L. 99-660, title VII, §701(a), Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3799. Pub. L. 101-354, §2, Aug. 10, 1990, 104 Stat. 410, enacted section 1503 of act July 1, 1944, which is classified to section 300m of this title.

¹ See References in Text note below.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1320a, act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XI, §1121, as added Jan. 2, 1968, Pub. L. 90-248, title II, §250(a), 81 Stat. 920, provided for assistance in the form of institutional services in intermediate care facilities, the subsecs. providing as follows: subsec. (a), modification of certain plans to include such benefit; subsec. (b), eligible individuals; subsec. (c), payments and Federal medical assistance percentage; subsec. (d), conditions, limitations, rights, and obligations applicable to modified plans; and subsec. (e), definition of "intermediate care facility", which is covered in section 1396d(c) of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 92-223, §4(c), Dec. 28, 1971, 85 Stat. 810.

Section was additionally amended by Pub. L. 92-603, title II, §278(a)(24), Oct. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 1453, without reference to the earlier repeal of this section by Pub. L. 92-223.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TIME PERIODS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFORM REPORTING SYSTEMS; CONSULTATIONS WITH INTERESTED PARTIES

Pub. L. 95-142, §19(c)(1), Oct. 25, 1977, 91 Stat. 1205, directed Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to establish the systems described in subsec. (a) of this section only after consultation with interested parties and for hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and intermediate care facilities, not later than the end of the one year period beginning on Oct. 25, 1977, and for other types of health services facilities and organizations, not later than the end of the two-year period beginning on Oct. 25, 1977.

§ 1320a-1. Limitation on use of Federal funds for capital expenditures

(a) Use of reimbursement for planning activities for health services and facilities

The purpose of this section is to assure that Federal funds appropriated under subchapters XVIII and XIX are not used to support unnecessary capital expenditures made by or on behalf of health care facilities which are reimbursed under any of such subchapters and that, to the extent possible, reimbursement under such subchapters shall support planning activities with respect to health services and facilities in the various States.

(b) Agreement between Secretary and State for submission of proposed capital expenditures related to health care facilities and procedures for appeal from recommendations

The Secretary, after consultation with the Governor (or other chief executive officer) and with appropriate local public officials, shall make an agreement with any State which is able and willing to do so under which a designated planning agency (which shall be an agency described in clause (ii) of subsection (d)(1)(B) that has a governing body or advisory board at least half of whose members represent consumer interests) will—

(1) make, and submit to the Secretary together with such supporting materials as he may find necessary, findings and recommendations with respect to capital expenditures proposed by or on behalf of any health care facility in such State within the field of its responsibilities,

(2) receive from other agencies described in clause (ii) of subsection (d)(1)(B), and submit to the Secretary together with such sup-

porting material as he may find necessary, the findings and recommendations of such other agencies with respect to capital expenditures proposed by or on behalf of health care facilities in such State within the fields of their respective responsibilities, and

(3) establish and maintain procedures pursuant to which a person proposing any such capital expenditure may appeal a recommendation by the designated agency and will be granted an opportunity for a fair hearing by such agency or person other than the designated agency as the Governor (or other chief executive officer) may designate to hold such hearings,

whenever and to the extent that the findings of such designated agency or any such other agency indicate that any such expenditure is not consistent with the standards, criteria, or plans developed pursuant to the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.] to meet the need for adequate health care facilities in the area covered by the plan or plans so developed.

(c) Manner of payment to States for carrying out agreement

The Secretary shall pay any such State from the general fund in the Treasury, in advance or by way of reimbursement as may be provided in the agreement with it (and may make adjustments in such payments on account of overpayments or underpayments previously made), for the reasonable cost of performing the functions specified in subsection (b).

(d) Determination of amount of exclusions from Federal payments

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), if the Secretary determines that—

(A) neither the planning agency designated in the agreement described in subsection (b) nor an agency described in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) of this paragraph had been given notice of any proposed capital expenditure (in accordance with such procedure or in such detail as may be required by such agency) at least 60 days prior to obligation for such expenditure; or

(B)(i) the planning agency so designated or an agency so described had received such timely notice of the intention to make such capital expenditure and had, within a reasonable period after receiving such notice and prior to obligation for such expenditure, notified the person proposing such expenditure that the expenditure would not be in conformity with the standards, criteria, or plans developed by such agency or any other agency described in clause (ii) for adequate health care facilities in such State or in the area for which such other agency has responsibility, and

(ii) the planning agency so designated had, prior to submitting to the Secretary the findings referred to in subsection (b)—

(I) consulted with, and taken into consideration the findings and recommendations of, the State planning agencies established pursuant to sections 314(a) and 604(a) of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 246(a), 291d(a)] (to the extent that either such agency is not the agency so designated) as well as

the public or nonprofit private agency or organization responsible for the comprehensive regional, metropolitan area, or other local area plan or plans referred to in section 314(b) of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 246(b)] and covering the area in which the health care facility proposing such capital expenditure is located (where such agency is not the agency designated in the agreement), or, if there is no such agency, such other public or nonprofit private agency or organization (if any) as performs, as determined in accordance with criteria included in regulations, similar functions, and

(II) granted to the person proposing such capital expenditure an opportunity for a fair hearing with respect to such findings;

then, for such period as he finds necessary in any case to effectuate the purpose of this section, he shall, in determining the Federal payments to be made under subchapters XVIII and XIX with respect to services furnished in the health care facility for which such capital expenditure is made, not include any amount which is attributable to depreciation, interest on borrowed funds, a return on equity capital (in the case of proprietary facilities), or other expenses related to such capital expenditure. With respect to any organization which is reimbursed on a per capita or a fixed fee or negotiated rate basis, in determining the Federal payments to be made under subchapters XVIII and XIX, the Secretary shall exclude an amount which in his judgment is a reasonable equivalent to the amount which would otherwise be excluded under this subsection if payment were to be made on other than a per capita or a fixed fee or negotiated rate basis.

(2) If the Secretary, after submitting the matters involved to the advisory council established or designated under subsection (i), determines that an exclusion of expenses related to any capital expenditure of any health care facility would discourage the operation or expansion of such facility which has demonstrated to his satisfaction proof of capability to provide comprehensive health care services (including institutional services) efficiently, effectively, and economically, or would otherwise be inconsistent with the effective organization and delivery of health services or the effective administration of subchapter XVIII or XIX, he shall not exclude such expenses pursuant to paragraph (1).

(e) Treatment of lease or comparable arrangement of any facility or equipment for a facility in determining amount of exclusions from Federal payments

Where a person obtains under lease or comparable arrangement any facility or part thereof, or equipment for a facility, which would have been subject to an exclusion under subsection (d) if the person had acquired it by purchase, the Secretary shall (1) in computing such person's rental expense in determining the Federal payments to be made under subchapters XVIII and XIX with respect to services furnished in such facility, deduct the amount which in his judgment is a reasonable equivalent of the amount that would have been excluded if the person had

acquired such facility or such equipment by purchase, and (2) in computing such person's return on equity capital deduct any amount deposited under the terms of the lease or comparable arrangement.

(f) Reconsideration by Secretary of determinations

Any person dissatisfied with a determination by the Secretary under this section may within six months following notification of such determination request the Secretary to reconsider such determination. A determination by the Secretary under this section shall not be subject to administrative or judicial review.

(g) "Capital expenditure" defined

For the purposes of this section, a "capital expenditure" is an expenditure which, under generally accepted accounting principles, is not properly chargeable as an expense of operation and maintenance and which (1) exceeds \$600,000 (or such lesser amount as the State may establish), (2) changes the bed capacity of the facility with respect to which such expenditure is made, or (3) substantially changes the services of the facility with respect to which such expenditure is made. For purposes of clause (1) of the preceding sentence, the cost of the studies, surveys, designs, plans, working drawings, specifications, and other activities essential to the acquisition, improvement, expansion, or replacement of the plant and equipment with respect to which such expenditure is made shall be included in determining whether such expenditure exceeds the dollar amount specified in clause (1).

(h) Applicability to Christian Science sanatoriums

The provisions of this section shall not apply to a religious nonmedical health care institution (as defined in section 1395x(ss)(1) of this title).

(i) National advisory council; establishment or designation of existing council; functions; consultations with other appropriate national advisory councils; composition; compensation and travel expenses

(1) The Secretary shall establish a national advisory council, or designate an appropriate existing national advisory council, to advise and assist him in the preparation of general regulations to carry out the purposes of this section and on policy matters arising in the administration of this section, including the coordination of activities under this section with those under other parts of this chapter or under other Federal or federally assisted health programs.

(2) The Secretary shall make appropriate provision for consultation between and coordination of the work of the advisory council established or designated under paragraph (1) and the Federal Hospital Council, the National Advisory Health Council, the Health Insurance Benefits Advisory Council, and other appropriate national advisory councils with respect to matters bearing on the purposes and administration of this section and the coordination of activities under this section with related Federal health programs.

(3) If an advisory council is established by the Secretary under paragraph (1), it shall be com-

posed of members who are not otherwise in the regular full-time employ of the United States, and who shall be appointed by the Secretary without regard to the civil service laws from among leaders in the fields of the fundamental sciences, the medical sciences, and the organization, delivery, and financing of health care, and persons who are State or local officials or are active in community affairs or public or civic affairs or who are representative of minority groups. Members of such advisory council, while attending meetings of the council or otherwise serving on business of the council, shall be entitled to receive compensation at rates fixed by the Secretary, but not exceeding the maximum rate specified at the time of such service for grade GS-18 in section 5332 of title 5, including traveltime, and while away from their homes or regular places of business they may also be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of such title 5 for persons in the Government service employed intermittently.

(j) Capital expenditure review exception for eligible organization health care facilities

A capital expenditure made by or on behalf of a health care facility shall not be subject to review pursuant to this section if 75 percent of the patients who can reasonably be expected to use the service with respect to which the capital expenditure is made will be individuals enrolled in an eligible organization as defined in section 1395mm(b) of this title, and if the Secretary determines that such capital expenditure is for services and facilities which are needed by such organization in order to operate efficiently and economically and which are not otherwise readily accessible to such organization because—

(1) the facilities do not provide common services at the same site (as usually provided by the organization),

(2) the facilities are not available under a contract of reasonable duration,

(3) full and equal medical staff privileges in the facilities are not available,

(4) arrangements with such facilities are not administratively feasible, or

(5) the purchase of such services is more costly than if the organization provided the services directly.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XI, §1122, as added Pub. L. 92-603, title II, §221(a), Oct. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 1386; amended Pub. L. 93-233, §18(z), (z-1), Dec. 31, 1973, 87 Stat. 973; Pub. L. 95-559, §14(b), Nov. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 2141; Pub. L. 96-32, §2(c), July 10, 1979, 93 Stat. 82; Pub. L. 97-35, title XXI, §2193(c)(3), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 827; Pub. L. 97-248, title I, §137(a)(5), Sept. 3, 1982, 96 Stat. 376; Pub. L. 98-21, title VI, §607(a), (b)(1), (c), Apr. 20, 1983, 97 Stat. 171, 172; Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, title III, §2354(a)(1), (2), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1100; Pub. L. 105-33, title IV, §4454(c)(1), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 431.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Public Health Service Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is act July 1, 1944, ch. 373, 58 Stat. 682, which is classified generally to chapter 6A (201 et seq.) of this title.

For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 201 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1997—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 105-33 substituted “a religious nonmedical health care institution (as defined in section 1395x(ss)(1) of this title)” for “Christian Science sanatoriums operated, or listed and certified, by the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, Massachusetts.”

1984—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 98-369, § 2354(a)(1), substituted a comma for the period at end of par. (1), and struck out “(or the Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act of 1963)” before “to meet the need” in provisions following par. (3).

Subsec. (i)(3). Pub. L. 98-369, § 2354(a)(2), substituted “5703” for “5703(b)”.

1983—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 98-21, § 607(a), substituted “the general fund in the Treasury” for “the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund”.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 98-21, § 607(b)(1), substituted “\$600,000 (or such lesser amount as the State may establish)” for “\$100,000” and Pub. L. 98-21, § 607(b)(1)(B), substituted “the dollar amount specified in clause (1)” for “\$100,000” the second time it appeared.

Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 98-21, § 607(c), added subsec. (j).

1982—Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 97-248 amended directory language of Pub. L. 97-35, § 2193(c)(3)(B), to correct typographical error, and did not involve any change in text. See 1981 Amendment note below.

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-35, § 2193(c)(3)(A), substituted “subchapters XVIII and XIX” for “subchapters V, XVIII, and XIX”.

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 97-35, § 2193(c)(3)(A), substituted in provision following subpar. (B)(i)(II) “subchapters XVIII and XIX” for “subchapters V, XVIII, and XIX” in two places.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 97-35, § 2193(c)(3)(B), as amended by Pub. L. 97-248, § 137(a)(5), substituted “subchapter XVIII or XIX” for “subchapter V, XVIII, or XIX”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 97-35, § 2193(c)(3)(A), substituted “subchapters XVIII and XIX” for “subchapters V, XVIII, and XIX”.

1979—Pub. L. 96-32 amended directory language of Pub. L. 95-559 and required no change in text of section. See 1978 Amendment notes below.

1978—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 95-559, § 14(b)(1), (2), as amended by Pub. L. 96-32, struck out references to health maintenance organizations wherever appearing.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 95-559, § 14(b)(1), (3), as amended by Pub. L. 96-32, struck out references to health maintenance organizations wherever appearing and in par. (2) “or organization, or of any facility of such organization,” after “expansion of such facility”.

1973—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 93-233, § 18(z), inserted “or a fixed fee or negotiated rate” after “per capita” wherever appearing in last sentence.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 93-233, § 18(z-1), substituted “exclude” for “include” where last appearing.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105-33 effective Aug. 5, 1997, and applicable to items and services furnished on or after such date, with provision that Secretary of Health and Human Services issue regulations to carry out such amendment by not later than July 1, 1998, see section 4454(d) of Pub. L. 105-33, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1395i-5 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, title III, § 2354(e), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1102, provided that:

“(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 1316, 1320a-7a, 1320a-8, 1395f, 1395i, 1395i-2,

1395k, 1395l, 1395n, 1395p, 1395s to 1395z, 1395aa, 1395cc, 1395ff, 1395ii, 1395l, 1395mm, 1395oo, 1395rr, and 1395ww of this title and section 162 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code, and amending provisions set out as notes under sections 1320c, 1395x, and 1395mm of this title] shall be effective on the date of the enactment of this Act [July 18, 1984]; but none of such amendments shall be construed as changing or affecting any right, liability, status, or interpretation which existed (under the provisions of law involved) before that date.

“(2) The amendments made by paragraphs (1) [amending section 1395f of this title and provisions set out as a note under section 1395x of this title], (2) [amending section 1316 of this title], and (3) [amending provisions set out as notes under sections 1320c and 1395mm of this title] of subsection (c) shall be effective as if they had been originally included in Public Laws 96-499, 97-35, and 97-248, respectively.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1982 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-248 effective as if originally included as part of this section as this section was amended by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, Pub. L. 97-35, see section 137(d)(2) of Pub. L. 97-248, set out as a note under section 1396a of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT, SAVINGS, AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

For effective date, savings, and transitional provisions relating to amendment by Pub. L. 97-35, see section 2194 of Pub. L. 97-35, set out as a note under section 701 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 92-603, title II, § 221(b), Oct. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 1389, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [enacting this section] shall apply only with respect to a capital expenditure the obligation for which is incurred by or on behalf of a health care facility or health maintenance organization subsequent to whichever of the following is earlier: (A) December 31, 1972, or (B) with respect to any State or any part thereof specified by such State, the last day of the calendar quarter in which the State requests that the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section [enacting this section] apply in such State or such part thereof.”

TERMINATION OF ADVISORY COUNCILS

Advisory councils in existence on Jan. 5, 1973, to terminate not later than the expiration of the 2-year period following Jan. 5, 1973, unless, in the case of a council established by the President or an officer of the Federal Government, such council is renewed by appropriate action prior to the expiration of such 2-year period, or in the case of a council established by the Congress, its duration is otherwise provided by law. Advisory councils established after Jan. 5, 1973, to terminate not later than the expiration of the 2-year period beginning on the date of their establishment, unless, in the case of a council established by the President or an officer of the Federal Government, such council is renewed by appropriate action prior to the expiration of such 2-year period, or in the case of a council established by the Congress, its duration is otherwise provided by law. See sections 1001(2) and 1013 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS TO GS-16, 17, OR 18 PAY RATES

References in laws to the rates of pay for GS-16, 17, or 18, or to maximum rates of pay under the General Schedule, to be considered references to rates payable under specified sections of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, see section 529 [title I, § 101(c)(1)]

of Pub. L. 101-509, set out in a note under section 5376 of Title 5.

EXPENDITURES OR OBLIGATIONS OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES PROVIDING HEALTH CARE SERVICES PRIOR TO DECEMBER 18, 1970; LIMITATIONS ON FEDERAL PARTICIPATION

Pub. L. 92-603, title II, §221(d), Oct. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 1389, provided that: "In the case of a health care facility providing health care services as of December 18, 1970, which on such date is committed to a formal plan of expansion or replacement, the amendments made by the preceding provisions of this section [enacting this section and amending sections 705, 706, 709, 1395x, 1396a, and 1396b of this title] shall not apply with respect to such expenditures as may be made or obligations incurred for capital items included in such plan where preliminary expenditures toward the plan of expansion or replacement (including payments for studies, surveys, designs, plans, working drawings, specifications, and site acquisition, essential to the acquisition, improvement, expansion, or replacement of the health care facility or equipment concerned) of \$100,000 or more, had been made during the three-year period ended December 17, 1970."

§ 1320a-1a. Transferred

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section, act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XI, §1123, as added Oct. 31, 1994, Pub. L. 103-432, title II, §203(a), 108 Stat. 4454, which related to reviews of child and family services programs, and of foster care and adoption assistance programs, for conformity with State plan requirements, was renumbered section 1123A of act Aug. 14, 1935, by Pub. L. 104-193, title V, §504, Aug. 22, 1996, 110 Stat. 2278, and was transferred to section 1320a-2a of this title.

§ 1320a-2. Effect of failure to carry out State plan

In an action brought to enforce a provision of this chapter, such provision is not to be deemed unenforceable because of its inclusion in a section of this chapter requiring a State plan or specifying the required contents of a State plan. This section is not intended to limit or expand the grounds for determining the availability of private actions to enforce State plan requirements other than by overturning any such grounds applied in *Suter v. Artist M.*, 112 S. Ct. 1360 (1992), but not applied in prior Supreme Court decisions respecting such enforceability; provided, however, that this section is not intended to alter the holding in *Suter v. Artist M.* that section 671(a)(15) of this title is not enforceable in a private right of action.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XI, §1123, as added Pub. L. 103-382, title V, §555(a), Oct. 20, 1994, 108 Stat. 4057.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1320a-2, act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title XI, §1123, as added Oct. 30, 1972, Pub. L. 92-603, title II, §241, 86 Stat. 1418; amended Dec. 5, 1980, Pub. L. 96-499, title IX, §911, 94 Stat. 2619; Sept. 3, 1982, Pub. L. 97-248, title I, §126, 96 Stat. 366; Apr. 7, 1986, Pub. L. 99-272, title IX, §9303(b)(4), 100 Stat. 189, related to qualifications for health care personnel, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 100-360, title IV, §430(a), as added Pub. L. 100-485, title VI, §608(b), (g)(1), Oct. 13, 1988, 102 Stat. 2412, 2424, effective as if included in the enactment of Pub. L. 100-360.

Another section 1123 of act Aug. 14, 1935, was renumbered section 1123A, and is classified to section 1320a-2a of this title.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 103-382, title V, §555(b), Oct. 20, 1994, 108 Stat. 4058, provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [enacting this section] shall apply to actions pending on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 20, 1994] and to actions brought on or after such date of enactment."

§ 1320a-2a. Reviews of child and family services programs, and of foster care and adoption assistance programs, for conformity with State plan requirements

(a) In general

The Secretary, in consultation with the State agencies administering the State programs under parts B and E of subchapter IV, shall promulgate regulations for the review of such programs to determine whether such programs are in substantial conformity with—

- (1) State plan requirements under such parts B and E,
- (2) implementing regulations promulgated by the Secretary, and
- (3) the relevant approved State plans.

(b) Elements of review system

The regulations referred to in subsection (a) shall—

- (1) specify the timetable for conformity reviews of State programs, including—

(A) an initial review of each State program;

(B) a timely review of a State program following a review in which such program was found not to be in substantial conformity; and

(C) less frequent reviews of State programs which have been found to be in substantial conformity, but such regulations shall permit the Secretary to reinstate more frequent reviews based on information which indicates that a State program may not be in conformity;

- (2) specify the requirements subject to review (which shall include determining whether the State program is in conformity with the requirement of section 671(a)(27) of this title), and the criteria to be used to measure conformity with such requirements and to determine whether there is a substantial failure to so conform;

(3) specify the method to be used to determine the amount of any Federal matching funds to be withheld (subject to paragraph (4)) due to the State program's failure to so conform, which ensures that—

(A) such funds will not be withheld with respect to a program, unless it is determined that the program fails substantially to so conform;

(B) such funds will not be withheld for a failure to so conform resulting from the State's reliance upon and correct use of formal written statements of Federal law or policy provided to the State by the Secretary; and