

Calendar No. 751

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 2982**

To amend the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act to authorize appropriations,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 6, 2008

Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

MAY 22, 2008

Reported by Mr. LEAHY, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

A BILL

To amend the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act to
authorize appropriations, 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 “Runaway and Home-
5 less Youth Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Section 302 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act
3 (42 U.S.C. 5701) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and
5 (5) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (6), respectively; and
6 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(3) services to such young people should be de-
9 veloped and provided using a positive youth develop-
10 ment approach that ensures a young person a sense
11 of—

12 “(A) safety and structure;

13 “(B) belonging and membership;

14 “(C) self-worth and social contribution;

15 “(D) independence and control over one’s
16 life; and

17 “(E) closeness in interpersonal relation-
18 ships.”

19 **SEC. 3. BASIC CENTER PROGRAM.**

20 (a) SERVICES PROVIDED.—Section 311 of the Run-
21 away and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5711) is
22 amended—

23 (1) in subsection (a)(2)(B), by striking clause
24 (i) and inserting the following:

25 “(i) safe and appropriate shelter pro-
26 vided for not to exceed 21 days; and”; and

1 (2) in subsection (b)(2)—

2 (A) by striking “\$100,000” and inserting
3 “\$200,000”;

4 (B) by striking “\$45,000” and inserting
5 “\$70,000”; and

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

7 “Whenever the Secretary determines that any
8 part of the amount allotted under paragraph
9 (1) to a State for a fiscal year will not be obli-
10 gated before the end of the fiscal year, the Sec-
11 retary shall realloot such part to the remaining
12 States for obligation for the fiscal year.”.

13 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 312(b) of the Runaway
14 and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5712(b)) is amend-
15 ed—

16 (1) in paragraph (11) by striking “and” at the
17 end;

18 (2) in paragraph (12) by striking the period
19 and inserting “; and”; and

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

21 “(13) shall develop an adequate emergency pre-
22 paredness and management plan.”.

1 **SEC. 4. TRANSITIONAL LIVING GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) **ELIGIBILITY.**—Section 322(a) of the Runaway
3 and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–2(a)) is amend-
4 ed—

5 (1) in paragraph (1)—

6 (A) by striking “indirectly” and inserting
7 “by contract”; and

8 (B) by striking “services” the first place it
9 appears and inserting “provide, directly or indi-
10 rectly, services,”;

11 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “a continuous
12 period not to exceed 540 days, except that” and all
13 that follows and inserting the following: “a contin-
14 uous period not to exceed 635 days, except that a
15 youth in a program under this part who has not
16 reached 18 years of age on the last day of the 635-
17 day period may, if otherwise qualified for the pro-
18 gram, remain in the program until the earlier of the
19 youth’s 18th birthday or the 180th day after the end
20 of the 635-day period,”;

21 (3) in paragraph (14), by striking “and” at the
22 end;

23 (4) in paragraph (15), by striking the period
24 and inserting “; and”; and

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

1 “(16) to develop an adequate emergency pre-
 2 paredness and management plan.”.

3 **SEC. 5. GRANTS FOR RESEARCH EVALUATION, DEM-**
 4 **ONSTRATION, AND SERVICE PROJECTS.**

5 Section 343 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act
 6 (42 U.S.C. 5714–23) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (b)—

8 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
 9 by striking “give special consideration to” and
 10 inserting “prioritize”;

11 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2)
 12 through (9) as paragraphs (3) through (10), re-
 13 spectively; and

14 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
 15 following:

16 “(2) positive youth development service delivery
 17 methods; providing links to community services; pro-
 18 moting mental and physical health development; ena-
 19 bling youth to obtain and maintain housing after
 20 program completion; and developing self-sufficiency
 21 competencies;”

22 (2) in subsection (c)—

23 (A) by inserting “for eligibility and selec-
 24 tion” after “priority”;

1 (B) by striking “shall give” and inserting
2 the following: “shall—”

3 ~~“(A) give”;~~

4 (C) by striking the period and inserting “;
5 and”; and

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

7 “(B) ensure that the applicants selected—

8 “(i) are geographically representative of re-
9 gions of the United States; and

10 “(ii) carry out projects that serve diverse
11 populations of homeless youth.”.

12 **SEC. 6. COORDINATING, TRAINING, RESEARCH, AND OTHER**
13 **ACTIVITIES.**

14 Part D of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42
15 U.S.C. 5714–21 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
16 the following:

17 **“SEC. 345. PERIODIC ESTIMATE OF INCIDENCE AND PREVA-**
18 **LENCE OF YOUTH HOMELESSNESS.**

19 “(a) **PERIODIC ESTIMATE.**—Not later than 2 years
20 after the date of enactment of the Runaway and Homeless
21 Youth Protection Act, and at 5-year intervals thereafter,
22 the Secretary shall prepare, and submit to the Speaker
23 of the House of Representatives and the President pro
24 tempore of the Senate, a written report that—

1 “(1) contains an estimate, obtained by using
 2 the best quantitative and qualitative social science
 3 research methods available, of the incidence and
 4 prevalence of runaway and homeless individuals who
 5 are not less than 13 years of age but less than 26
 6 years of age; and

7 “(2) includes with such estimate an assessment
 8 of the characteristics of such individuals.

9 “(b) CONTENT.—Each assessment required by sub-
 10 section (a) shall include—

11 “(1) the results of conducting a survey of, and
 12 direct interviews with, a representative sample of
 13 runaway and homeless individuals who are not less
 14 than 13 years of age but less than 26 years of age
 15 to determine past and current—

16 “(A) socioeconomic characteristics of such
 17 individuals; and

18 “(B) barriers to such individuals obtain-
 19 ing—

20 “(i) safe, quality, and affordable hous-
 21 ing;

22 “(ii) comprehensive and affordable
 23 health insurance and health services; and

1 “(iii) incomes, public benefits, sup-
 2 portive services, and connections to caring
 3 adults; and

4 “(2) such other information as the Secretary
 5 determines, in consultation with States, units of
 6 local government, and national nongovernmental or-
 7 ganizations concerned with homelessness, may be
 8 useful.

9 “(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—If the Secretary enters into
 10 any agreement with a non-Federal entity for purposes of
 11 carrying out subsection (a), such entity shall be a non-
 12 governmental organization, or an individual, determined
 13 by the Secretary to have appropriate expertise in quan-
 14 titative and qualitative social science research.”.

15 **SEC. 7. SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM.**

16 Section 351(b) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth
 17 Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–41(b)) is amended by inserting
 18 “public and” after “priority to”.

19 **SEC. 8. NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS CAM-**
 20 **PAIGN.**

21 The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C.
 22 5701 et seq.) is amended—

23 (1) by redesignating part F as part G; and

24 (2) by inserting after part E the following:

~~“PART F—NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH~~

~~AWARENESS CAMPAIGN~~

**~~“SEC. 361. NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS CAM-
PAIGN.~~**

~~“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, directly or through grants or contracts, conduct a national homeless youth awareness campaign (referred to in this section as the ‘national awareness campaign’) in accordance with this section for purposes of—~~

~~“(1) increasing awareness of individuals of all ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, and geographic locations, of the issues facing runaway and homeless youth (including youth considering running away); and~~

~~“(2) encouraging parents and guardians, educators, health care professionals, social service professionals, law enforcement officials, stakeholders, and other community members to assist youth described in paragraph (1) in averting or resolving runaway and homeless situations.~~

~~“(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts made available to carry out this section for the national awareness campaign may only be used for the following:~~

~~“(1) Dissemination of educational information and materials through various media, including tele-~~

1 vision, radio, the Internet and related technologies,
2 and emerging technologies.

3 “(2) Evaluation of the effectiveness of the ac-
4 tivities described in paragraphs (1) and (5).

5 “(3) Development of partnerships with national
6 organizations concerned with youth homelessness,
7 community-based youth service organizations, in-
8 cluding faith-based organizations, and Government
9 organizations to carry out the national awareness
10 campaign.

11 “(4) Conducting outreach activities to stake-
12 holders and potential stakeholders in the national
13 awareness campaign.

14 “(5) In accordance with applicable laws (includ-
15 ing regulations), development and placement in tele-
16 communications media (including the Internet and
17 related technologies, and emerging technologies) of
18 public service announcements that educate the pub-
19 lic on—

20 “(A) the issues facing runaway and home-
21 less youth (including youth considering running
22 away); and

23 “(B) the opportunities that adults have to
24 assist youth described in subparagraph (A).

1 “(c) PROHIBITIONS.—None of the amounts made
 2 available to carry out this section may be obligated or ex-
 3 pended for any of the following:

4 “(1) To fund public service time that supplants
 5 pro bono public service time donated by national or
 6 local broadcasting networks, advertising agencies, or
 7 production companies for the national awareness
 8 campaign, or to fund activities that supplant pro
 9 bono work for the national awareness campaign.

10 “(2) To carry out partisan political purposes, or
 11 express advocacy in support of or opposition to any
 12 clearly identified candidate, clearly identified ballot
 13 initiative, or clearly identified legislative or regu-
 14 latory proposal.

15 “(3) To fund advertising that features any
 16 elected official, person seeking elected office, cabinet
 17 level official, or other Federal employee employed
 18 pursuant to section 213.3301 or 213.3302 of title 5,
 19 Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding
 20 similar regulation or ruling).

21 “(4) To fund advertising that does not contain
 22 a primary message intended to educate the public on
 23 the issues and opportunities described in subsection
 24 (b)(5).

1 ~~“(5) To fund advertising that solicits contribu-~~
 2 ~~tions from both public and private sources to sup-~~
 3 ~~port the national awareness campaign.~~

4 ~~“(d) FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE ACCOUNT-~~
 5 ~~ABILITY.—The Secretary shall cause to be performed—~~

6 ~~“(1) audits and examinations of records, relat-~~
 7 ~~ing to the costs of the national awareness campaign,~~
 8 ~~pursuant to section 304C of the Federal Property~~
 9 ~~and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C.~~
 10 ~~254d); and~~

11 ~~“(2) audits to determine whether the costs of~~
 12 ~~the national awareness campaign are allowable~~
 13 ~~under section 306 of such Act (41 U.S.C. 256).~~

14 ~~“(e) REPORT.—The Secretary shall include in each~~
 15 ~~report submitted under section 382(a) a summary of in-~~
 16 ~~formation about the national awareness campaign that de-~~
 17 ~~scribes—~~

18 ~~“(1) the strategy of the national awareness~~
 19 ~~campaign and whether specific objectives of the cam-~~
 20 ~~paign were accomplished;~~

21 ~~“(2) steps taken to ensure that the national~~
 22 ~~awareness campaign operated in an effective and ef-~~
 23 ~~ficient manner consistent with the overall strategy~~
 24 ~~and focus of the national awareness campaign; and~~

1 “(3) all grants or contracts entered into with a
2 corporation, partnership, or individual working on
3 the national awareness campaign.”.

4 **SEC. 9. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

5 (a) **REPORTS.**—Section 382(a) of the Runaway and
6 Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5715(a)) is amended by
7 striking “, and E” and inserting “, E, and F”.

8 (b) **CONSOLIDATED REVIEW.**—Section 385 of the
9 Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5731a) is
10 amended by striking “, and E” and inserting “, E, and
11 F”.

12 (c) **EVALUATION AND INFORMATION.**—Section
13 386(a) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42
14 U.S.C. 5732(a)) is amended by striking “, or E” and in-
15 serting “, E, or F”.

16 **SEC. 10. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.**

17 Part G of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42
18 U.S.C. 5714a et seq.), as redesignated by section 8, is
19 amended by inserting after section 386 the following:

20 **“SEC. 386A. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.**

21 “(a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PERFORMANCE STAND-**
22 **ARDS.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
23 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Protection Act, the
24 Secretary shall issue rules that specify performance stand-

ards for public and nonprofit private entities that receive grants under sections 311, 321, and 351.

“(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall consult with representatives of public and nonprofit private entities that receive grants under this title, including statewide and regional nonprofit organizations (including combinations of such organizations) that receive grants under this title, and national nonprofit organizations concerned with youth homelessness, in developing the performance standards required by subsection (a).

“(c) IMPLEMENTATION OF PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall integrate the performance standards into the processes of the Department of Health and Human Services for grantmaking, monitoring, and evaluation for programs under parts A, B, and E.”.

SEC. 11. APPEALS.

Part G of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714a et seq.) as amended by section 10, is further amended by inserting after section 386A the following:

“SEC. 386B. APPEALS.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF APPEAL PROCEDURE.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Protection Act, the Secretary shall establish by rule an appeal procedure to enable applicants to obtain timely reviews of the amounts

1 of grants made, and the denials of grants requested, under
2 this title.

3 “(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall consult
4 with representatives of public and nonprofit private enti-
5 ties that receive grants under this title, including state-
6 wide and regional nonprofit organizations (including com-
7 binations of such organizations) that receive grants under
8 this title, and national nonprofit organizations concerned
9 with youth homelessness, in developing the appeal proce-
10 dure required by subsection (a).”.

11 **SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.**

12 (a) HOMELESS YOUTH.—Section 387(3) of the Run-
13 away and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a(3)) is
14 amended—

15 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
16 by striking “The” and all that follows through
17 “means” and inserting “The term ‘homeless’, used
18 with respect to a youth, means”; and

19 (2) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “not
20 less than 16 years of age” and inserting “not less
21 than 16 years of age and not more than 21 years
22 of age, except that nothing in this clause shall pre-
23 vent a participant who enters the program carried
24 out under part B prior to reaching 22 years of age

1 from being eligible for the 635-day length of stay
 2 authorized by section 322(a)(2); and”.

3 (b) ~~RUNAWAY YOUTH.~~—Section 387 of the Runaway
 4 and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), (6),
 6 and (7) as paragraphs (5), (6), (7), and (8), respec-
 7 tively; and

8 (2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
 9 lowing:

10 “(4) ~~RUNAWAY YOUTH.~~—The term ‘runaway’,
 11 used with respect to a youth, means an individual
 12 who is less than 18 years of age and who absents
 13 himself or herself from home or a place of legal resi-
 14 dence without the permission of a parent or legal
 15 guardian.”.

16 **SEC. 13. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 Section 388(a) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth
 18 Act (42 U.S.C. 5751(a)) is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (1)—

20 (A) by striking “is authorized” and insert-
 21 ing “are authorized”;

22 (B) by striking “part E) \$105,000,000 for
 23 fiscal year 2004” and inserting “parts E and
 24 F) \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2009”; and

1 (C) by striking “2005, 2006, 2007, and
2 2008” and inserting “2010, 2011, 2012, and
3 2013”; and

4 (2) in paragraph (4)—

5 (A) by striking “is authorized” and insert-
6 ing “are authorized”; and

7 (B) by striking “such sums as may be nec-
8 essary for fiscal years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007,
9 and 2008” and inserting “\$30,000,000 for fis-
10 cal year 2009 and such sums as may be nec-
11 essary for fiscal years 2010, 2011, 2012, and
12 2013”; and

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

14 “(5) PART F.—There is authorized to be appro-
15 priated to carry out part F \$3,000,000 for fiscal
16 year 2009 and such sums as may be necessary for
17 fiscal years 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013.”.

18 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

19 *This Act may be cited as the “Runaway and Homeless*
20 *Youth Protection Act”.*

21 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

22 *Section 302 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act*
23 *(42 U.S.C. 5701) is amended—*

24 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and (5)
25 as paragraphs (4), (5), and (6), respectively; and

1 (2) *by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-*
 2 *lowing:*

3 “(3) *services to such young people should be de-*
 4 *veloped and provided using a positive youth develop-*
 5 *ment approach that ensures a young person a sense*
 6 *of—*

7 “(A) *safety and structure;*

8 “(B) *belonging and membership;*

9 “(C) *self-worth and social contribution;*

10 “(D) *independence and control over one’s*
 11 *life; and*

12 “(E) *closeness in interpersonal relation-*
 13 *ships.”.*

14 **SEC. 3. BASIC CENTER PROGRAM.**

15 (a) *SERVICES PROVIDED.*—*Section 311 of the Run-*
 16 *away and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5711) is amend-*
 17 *ed—*

18 (1) *in subsection (a)(2)(B), by striking clause (i)*
 19 *and inserting the following:*

20 “(i) *safe and appropriate shelter pro-*
 21 *vided for not to exceed 21 days; and”; and*

22 (2) *in subsection (b)(2)—*

23 (A) *by striking “\$100,000” and inserting*
 24 *“\$200,000”;*

1 (B) by striking “\$45,000” and inserting
2 “\$70,000”; and

3 (C) by adding at the end the following:
4 “Whenever the Secretary determines that any
5 part of the amount allotted under paragraph (1)
6 to a State for a fiscal year will not be obligated
7 before the end of the fiscal year, the Secretary
8 shall reallocate such part to the remaining States
9 for obligation for the fiscal year.”.

10 (b) *ELIGIBILITY*.—Section 312(b) of the Runaway and
11 Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5712(b)) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (11) by striking “and” at the
13 end;

14 (2) in paragraph (12) by striking the period and
15 inserting “; and”; and

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

17 “(13) shall develop an adequate emergency pre-
18 paredness and management plan.”.

19 **SEC. 4. TRANSITIONAL LIVING GRANT PROGRAM.**

20 (a) *ELIGIBILITY*.—Section 322(a) of the Runaway and
21 Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–2(a)) is amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (1)—

23 (A) by striking “indirectly” and inserting
24 “by contract”; and

1 (B) by striking “services” the first place it
 2 appears and inserting “provide, directly or indi-
 3 rectly, services,”;

4 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “a continuous
 5 period not to exceed 540 days, except that” and all
 6 that follows and inserting the following: “a contin-
 7 uous period not to exceed 635 days, except that a
 8 youth in a program under this part who has not
 9 reached 18 years of age on the last day of the 635-
 10 day period may, if otherwise qualified for the pro-
 11 gram, remain in the program until the earlier of the
 12 youth’s 18th birthday or the 180th day after the end
 13 of the 635-day period;”;

14 (3) in paragraph (14), by striking “and” at the
 15 end;

16 (4) in paragraph (15), by striking the period
 17 and inserting “; and”; and

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

19 “(16) to develop an adequate emergency pre-
 20 paredness and management plan.”.

21 **SEC. 5. GRANTS FOR RESEARCH EVALUATION, DEMONSTRA-**
 22 **TION, AND SERVICE PROJECTS.**

23 Section 343 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act
 24 (42 U.S.C. 5714–23) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
 2 by striking “special consideration” and inserting
 3 “priority”;

4 (B) in paragraph (8)—

5 (i) by striking “to health” and insert-
 6 ing “to quality health”;

7 (ii) by striking “mental health care”
 8 and inserting “behavioral health care”; and

9 (iii) by striking “and” at the end;

10 (C) in paragraph (9), by striking the period
 11 at the end and inserting “, including access to
 12 educational and workforce programs to achieve
 13 outcomes such as decreasing high school dropout
 14 rates, increasing rates of attaining a secondary
 15 school diploma or its recognized equivalent, or
 16 increasing placement and retention in postsec-
 17 ondary education or advanced workforce train-
 18 ing programs; and”;

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

20 “(10) providing programs, which shall include
 21 innovative programs, that assist youth in obtaining
 22 and maintaining safe and stable housing, and which
 23 may include programs with supportive services that
 24 continue after the youth complete the remainder of the
 25 programs.”; and

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

3 “(c) *In selecting among applicants for grants under*
 4 *subsection (a), the Secretary shall—*

5 “(1) *give priority to applicants who have experi-*
 6 *ence working with runaway or homeless youth in*
 7 *high-quality programs; and*

8 “(2) *ensure that the applicants selected—*

9 “(A) *represent diverse geographic regions of*
 10 *the United States; and*

11 “(B) *carry out projects that serve diverse*
 12 *populations of runaway or homeless youth.”.*

13 **SEC. 6. COORDINATING, TRAINING, RESEARCH, AND OTHER**
 14 **ACTIVITIES.**

15 *Part D of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42*
 16 *U.S.C. 5714–21 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end*
 17 *the following:*

18 **“SEC. 345. PERIODIC ESTIMATE OF INCIDENCE AND PREVA-**
 19 **LENCE OF YOUTH HOMELESSNESS.**

20 “(a) *PERIODIC ESTIMATE.—Not later than 2 years*
 21 *after the date of enactment of the Runaway and Homeless*
 22 *Youth Protection Act, and at 5-year intervals thereafter, the*
 23 *Secretary shall prepare, and submit to the Speaker of the*
 24 *House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of*
 25 *the Senate, a written report that—*

1 “(1) contains an estimate, obtained by using the
 2 best quantitative and qualitative social science re-
 3 search methods available, of the incidence and preva-
 4 lence of runaway and homeless individuals who are
 5 not less than 13 years of age but less than 26 years
 6 of age; and

7 “(2) includes with such estimate an assessment
 8 of the characteristics of such individuals.

9 “(b) CONTENT.—Each assessment required by sub-
 10 section (a) shall include—

11 “(1) the results of conducting a survey of, and
 12 direct interviews with, a representative sample of
 13 runaway and homeless individuals who are not less
 14 than 13 years of age but less than 26 years of age to
 15 determine past and current—

16 “(A) socioeconomic characteristics of such
 17 individuals; and

18 “(B) barriers to such individuals obtain-
 19 ing—

20 “(i) safe, quality, and affordable hous-
 21 ing;

22 “(ii) comprehensive and affordable
 23 health insurance and health services; and

1 “(iii) incomes, public benefits, sup-
 2 portive services, and connections to caring
 3 adults; and

4 “(2) such other information as the Secretary de-
 5 termines, in consultation with States, units of local
 6 government, and national nongovernmental organiza-
 7 tions concerned with homelessness, may be useful.

8 “(c) *IMPLEMENTATION.*—If the Secretary enters into
 9 any agreement with a non-Federal entity for purposes of
 10 carrying out subsection (a), such entity shall be a non-
 11 governmental organization, or an individual, determined
 12 by the Secretary to have appropriate expertise in quan-
 13 titative and qualitative social science research.”.

14 **SEC. 7. SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM.**

15 Section 351(b) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth
 16 Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–41(b)) is amended by inserting “pub-
 17 lic and” after “priority to”.

18 **SEC. 8. NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS CAM-**
 19 **PAIGN.**

20 The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C.
 21 5701 et seq.) is amended—

- 22 (1) by redesignating part F as part G; and
 23 (2) by inserting after part E the following:

1 **“PART F—NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH**

2 **AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

3 **“SEC. 361. NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS CAM-**
 4 **PAIGN.**

5 “(a) *AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.*—*The Secretary shall, di-*
 6 *rectly or through grants or contracts, conduct a national*
 7 *homeless youth awareness campaign (referred to in this sec-*
 8 *tion as the ‘national awareness campaign’) in accordance*
 9 *with this section for purposes of—*

10 “(1) *increasing awareness of individuals of all*
 11 *ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, and geographic loca-*
 12 *tions, of the issues facing runaway and homeless*
 13 *youth (including youth considering running away);*
 14 *and*

15 “(2) *encouraging parents and guardians, edu-*
 16 *cators, health care professionals, social service profes-*
 17 *sionals, law enforcement officials, stakeholders, and*
 18 *other community members to assist youth described in*
 19 *paragraph (1) in averting or resolving runaway and*
 20 *homeless situations.*

21 “(b) *USE OF FUNDS.*—*Funds made available to carry*
 22 *out this part for the national awareness campaign may*
 23 *only be used for the following:*

24 “(1) *Dissemination of educational information*
 25 *and materials through various media, including tele-*

1 *vision, radio, the Internet and related technologies,*
 2 *and emerging technologies.*

3 *“(2) Evaluation of the effectiveness of the activi-*
 4 *ties described in paragraphs (1) and (5).*

5 *“(3) Development of partnerships with national*
 6 *organizations concerned with youth homelessness,*
 7 *community-based youth service organizations, includ-*
 8 *ing faith-based organizations, and government orga-*
 9 *nizations to carry out the national awareness cam-*
 10 *paign.*

11 *“(4) Conducting outreach activities to stake-*
 12 *holders and potential stakeholders in the national*
 13 *awareness campaign.*

14 *“(5) In accordance with applicable laws (includ-*
 15 *ing regulations), development and placement in tele-*
 16 *communications media (including the Internet and*
 17 *related technologies, and emerging technologies) of*
 18 *public service announcements that educate the public*
 19 *on—*

20 *“(A) the issues facing runaway and home-*
 21 *less youth (including youth considering running*
 22 *away); and*

23 *“(B) the opportunities that adults have to*
 24 *assist youth described in subparagraph (A).*

1 “(c) *PROHIBITIONS.—None of the funds made avail-*
2 *able to carry out this part may be obligated or expended*
3 *for any of the following:*

4 “(1) *To fund public service time that supplants*
5 *pro bono public service time donated by national or*
6 *local broadcasting networks, advertising agencies, or*
7 *production companies for the national awareness*
8 *campaign, or to fund activities that supplant pro*
9 *bono work for the national awareness campaign.*

10 “(2) *To carry out partisan political purposes, or*
11 *express advocacy in support of or opposition to any*
12 *clearly identified candidate, clearly identified ballot*
13 *initiative, or clearly identified legislative or regu-*
14 *latory proposal.*

15 “(3) *To fund advertising that features any elect-*
16 *ed official, person seeking elected office, cabinet level*
17 *official, or other Federal employee employed pursuant*
18 *to section 213.3301 or 213.3302 of title 5, Code of*
19 *Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar*
20 *regulation or ruling).*

21 “(4) *To fund advertising that does not contain*
22 *a primary message intended to educate the public on*
23 *the issues and opportunities described in subsection*
24 *(b)(5).*

1 “(5) *To fund advertising that solicits contribu-*
 2 *tions from both public and private sources to support*
 3 *the national awareness campaign.*

4 “(d) *FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE ACCOUNT-*
 5 *ABILITY.—The Secretary shall cause to be performed—*

6 “(1) *audits and examinations of records, relating*
 7 *to the costs of the national awareness campaign, pur-*
 8 *suant to section 304C of the Federal Property and*
 9 *Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C.*
 10 *254d); and*

11 “(2) *audits to determine whether the costs of the*
 12 *national awareness campaign are allowable under*
 13 *section 306 of such Act (41 U.S.C. 256).*

14 “(e) *REPORT.—The Secretary shall include in each re-*
 15 *port submitted under section 382(a) a summary of informa-*
 16 *tion about the national awareness campaign that de-*
 17 *scribes—*

18 “(1) *the strategy of the national awareness cam-*
 19 *paign and whether specific objectives of the campaign*
 20 *were accomplished;*

21 “(2) *steps taken to ensure that the national*
 22 *awareness campaign operated in an effective and effi-*
 23 *cient manner consistent with the overall strategy and*
 24 *focus of the national awareness campaign; and*

1 “(3) all grants or contracts entered into with a
2 corporation, partnership, or individual working on
3 the national awareness campaign.”.

4 **SEC. 9. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

5 (a) *REPORTS*.—Section 382(a) of the Runaway and
6 Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5715(a)) is amended by
7 striking “, and E” and inserting “, E, and F”.

8 (b) *CONSOLIDATED REVIEW*.—Section 385 of the Run-
9 away and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5731a) is amend-
10 ed by striking “, and E” and inserting “, E, and F”.

11 (c) *EVALUATION AND INFORMATION*.—Section 386(a)
12 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C.
13 5732(a)) is amended by striking “, or E” and inserting
14 “, E, or F”.

15 **SEC. 10. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.**

16 Part G of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42
17 U.S.C. 5714a et seq.), as redesignated by section 8, is
18 amended by inserting after section 386 the following:

19 **“SEC. 386A. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.**

20 “(a) *ESTABLISHMENT OF PERFORMANCE STAND-*
21 *ARDS*.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
22 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Protection Act, the
23 Secretary shall issue rules that specify performance stand-
24 ards for public and nonprofit private entities that receive
25 grants under sections 311, 321, and 351.

1 “(b) *CONSULTATION.*—*The Secretary shall consult*
 2 *with representatives of public and nonprofit private entities*
 3 *that receive grants under this title, including statewide and*
 4 *regional nonprofit organizations (including combinations*
 5 *of such organizations) that receive grants under this title,*
 6 *and national nonprofit organizations concerned with youth*
 7 *homelessness, in developing the performance standards re-*
 8 *quired by subsection (a).*

9 “(c) *IMPLEMENTATION OF PERFORMANCE STAND-*
 10 *ARDS.*—*The Secretary shall integrate the performance*
 11 *standards into the processes of the Department of Health*
 12 *and Human Services for grantmaking, monitoring, and*
 13 *evaluation for programs under parts A, B, and E.”.*

14 **SEC. 11. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE STUDY**
 15 **AND REPORT.**

16 (a) *STUDY.*—

17 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Comptroller General of*
 18 *the United States shall conduct a study, including*
 19 *making findings and recommendations, relating to*
 20 *the processes for making grants under parts A, B, and*
 21 *E of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42*
 22 *U.S.C. 5711 et seq., 5714–1 et seq., 5714–41).*

23 (2) *SUBJECTS.*—*In particular, the Comptroller*
 24 *General shall study—*

1 (A) the Secretary's written responses to and
2 other communications with applicants who do
3 not receive grants under part A, B, or E of such
4 Act, to determine if the information provided in
5 the responses and communications is conveyed
6 clearly;

7 (B) the content of the grant applications for
8 the grants, and of other associated documents
9 (including grant announcements), to determine
10 if the applications and other associated docu-
11 ments are presented in a way that gives an ap-
12 plicant a clear understanding of the information
13 that the applicant must provide in each portion
14 of an application to successfully complete it, and
15 a clear understanding of the terminology used
16 throughout the application and other associated
17 documents;

18 (C) the peer review process for applications
19 for the grants, including the selection of peer re-
20 viewers, the oversight of the process by staff of
21 the Department of Health and Human Services,
22 and the extent to which such staff make funding
23 determinations based on the comments and scores
24 of the peer reviewers;

1 (D) the typical timeframe, and the process
 2 and responsibilities of such staff, for responding
 3 to applicants for the grants, and the efforts made
 4 by such staff to communicate with the applicants
 5 when funding decisions or funding for the grants
 6 is delayed, such as when funding is delayed due
 7 to funding of a program through appropriations
 8 made under a continuing resolution; and

9 (E) the plans for implementation of, and
 10 the implementation of, where practicable, the
 11 technical assistance and training programs car-
 12 ried out under section 342 of the Runaway and
 13 Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–22), and
 14 the effect of such programs on the application
 15 process for the grants.

16 (b) *REPORT*.—Not later than 1 year after the date of
 17 enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall pre-
 18 pare and submit to the Committee on Education and Labor
 19 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the
 20 Judiciary of the Senate a report containing the findings
 21 and recommendations resulting from the study.

22 **SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.**

23 (a) *HOMELESS YOUTH*.—Section 387(3) of the Run-
 24 away and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a(3)) is
 25 amended—

1 (1) *in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),*
 2 *by striking “The” and all that follows through*
 3 *“means” and inserting “The term ‘homeless’, used*
 4 *with respect to a youth, means”;* and

5 (2) *in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “not less*
 6 *than 16 years of age” and inserting “not less than 16*
 7 *years of age and not more than 21 years of age, ex-*
 8 *cept that nothing in this clause shall prevent a par-*
 9 *ticipant who enters the program carried out under*
 10 *part B prior to reaching 22 years of age from being*
 11 *eligible for the 635-day length of stay authorized by*
 12 *section 322(a)(2); and”.*

13 (b) *RUNAWAY YOUTH.—Section 387 of the Runaway*
 14 *and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a) is amended—*

15 (1) *by redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), (6),*
 16 *and (7) as paragraphs (5), (6), (7), and (8), respec-*
 17 *tively; and*

18 (2) *by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-*
 19 *lowing:*

20 “(4) *RUNAWAY YOUTH.—The term ‘runaway’,*
 21 *used with respect to a youth, means an individual*
 22 *who is less than 18 years of age and who absents him-*
 23 *self or herself from home or a place of legal residence*
 24 *without the permission of a parent or legal guard-*
 25 *ian.”.*

1 **SEC. 13. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 *Section 388(a) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth*
 3 *Act (42 U.S.C. 5751(a)) is amended—*

4 *(1) in paragraph (1)—*

5 *(A) by striking “is authorized” and insert-*
 6 *ing “are authorized”;*

7 *(B) by striking “part E) \$105,000,000 for*
 8 *fiscal year 2004” and inserting “section 345 and*
 9 *parts E and F) \$150,000,000 for fiscal year*
 10 *2009”; and*

11 *(C) by striking “2005, 2006, 2007, and*
 12 *2008” and inserting “2010, 2011, 2012, and*
 13 *2013”;*

14 *(2) in paragraph (3)—*

15 *(A) by striking “In” and inserting the fol-*
 16 *lowing:*

17 *“(A) IN GENERAL.—In”;*

18 *(B) by inserting “(other than section 345)”*
 19 *before the period; and*

20 *(C) by adding at the end the following:*

21 *“(B) PERIODIC ESTIMATE.—There are au-*
 22 *thorized to be appropriated to carry out section*
 23 *345 such sums as may be necessary for fiscal*
 24 *years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013.”;*

25 *(3) in paragraph (4)—*

1 (A) by striking “is authorized” and insert-
2 ing “are authorized”; and

3 (B) by striking “such sums as may be nec-
4 essary for fiscal years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007,
5 and 2008” and inserting “\$30,000,000 for fiscal
6 year 2009 and such sums as may be necessary
7 for fiscal years 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013”;
8 and

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

10 “(5) *PART F.*—There are authorized to be appro-
11 priated to carry out part *F* \$3,000,000 for fiscal year
12 2009 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal
13 years 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013.”.

Calendar No. 751

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2982

A BILL

To amend the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act
to authorize appropriations, and for other purposes.

MAY 22, 2008

Reported with an amendment