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S. 1086

[Report No. 113-138]

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 3, 2013

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. BURR, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

FEBRUARY 25, 2014

Reported by Mr. HARKIN, with an amendment

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

A BILL

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

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Child Care and Devel-
5 opment Block Grant Act of ~~2013~~”.

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

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

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

6 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This subchapter may be cited
7 as the ‘Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of
8 1990’.

9 “(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this subchapter
10 are—

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

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

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

22 “(4) to assist States in improving the overall
23 quality of child care services and programs by imple-
24 menting the health, safety, licensing, training, and
25 oversight standards established in this subchapter
26 and in State law (including regulations);

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

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

14 “(7) to increase the number and percentage of
15 low-income children in high-quality child care set-
16 tings; and

17 “(8) to improve the coordination and delivery of
18 early childhood education and care (including child
19 care).”.

20 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 Section 658B of the Child Care and Development
22 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9801) is amended
23 by striking “subchapter” and all that follows, and insert-
24 ing “subchapter, such sums as may be necessary for each
25 of fiscal years 2014 through 2019.”.

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

2 Section 658D(a) of the Child Care and Development
3 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858b(a)) is amend-
4 ed—

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

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

13 **SEC. 5. APPLICATION AND PLAN.**

14 (a) PERIOD.—Section 658E(b) of the Child Care and
15 Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
16 9858e(b)) is amended, by striking “2-year” and inserting
17 “3-year”.

18 (b) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—Section 658E(c)
19 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 9858e(c)) is amended—

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

22 (2) in paragraph (2)—

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

25 (B) by striking subparagraphs (D) through
26 (H); and

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

2 “(D) MONITORING AND INSPECTION RE-
3 PORTS.—The plan shall include a certification
4 that the State, not later than 1 year after the
5 date of enactment of the Child Care and Devel-
6 opment Block Grant Act of 2013, will make
7 public by electronic means, in a consumer-
8 friendly and easily accessible format, organized
9 by provider, the results of monitoring and in-
10 spection reports, including those due to major
11 substantiated complaints about failure to com-
12 ply with this subchapter and State child care
13 policies, as well as the number of deaths, seri-
14 ous injuries, and instances of substantiated
15 child abuse that occurred in child care settings
16 each year, for eligible child care providers with-
17 in the State.

18 “(E) CONSUMER EDUCATION INFORMA-
19 TION.—The plan shall include a certification
20 that the State will collect and disseminate
21 (which dissemination may be done, except as
22 otherwise specified in this subparagraph,
23 through resource and referral organizations and
24 other means as determined by the State) to

1 parents of eligible children and the general pub-
2 lic—

3 “(i) information that will promote in-
4 formed child care choices and that con-
5 cerns—

6 “(I) the availability of child care
7 services provided through programs
8 authorized under this subchapter and,
9 if feasible, other child care services
10 provided in the State;

11 “(II) if available, information
12 about the quality of providers, includ-
13 ing information from a Quality Rating
14 and Improvement System;

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

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

3 “(V) other programs for which
4 families that receive child care serv-
5 ices for which financial assistance is
6 provided in accordance with this sub-
7 chapter may be eligible, including the
8 program of block grants to States for
9 temporary assistance for needy fami-
10 lies established under part A of title
11 IV of the Social Security Act (42
12 U.S.C. 601 et seq.); Head Start and
13 Early Head Start programs carried
14 out under the Head Start Act (42
15 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.); the program
16 carried out under the Low-Income
17 Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981
18 (42 U.S.C. 8621 et seq.); the supple-
19 mental nutrition assistance program
20 established under the Food and Nutri-
21 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et
22 seq.); the special supplemental nutri-
23 tion program for women, infants, and
24 children established by section 17 of
25 the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42

1 U.S.C. 1786), the child and adult care
2 food program established under sec-
3 tion 17 of the Richard B. Russell Na-
4 tional School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C.
5 1766), and the Medicaid and State
6 children's health insurance programs
7 under titles XIX and XXI of the So-
8 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et
9 seq. and 1397aa et seq.);

10 “(VI) programs carried out
11 under section 619 and part C of the
12 Individuals with Disabilities Edu-
13 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1419 and 1431
14 et seq.); and

15 “(VII) research and best prac-
16 tices concerning children's develop-
17 ment, including language and cog-
18 nitive development, development of
19 early language and literacy and math-
20 ematics skills, social and emotional
21 development, meaningful parent and
22 family engagement, and physical
23 health and development;

24 “(ii) information on developmental
25 screenings, including—

1 “(I) information on existing (as
2 of the date of submission of the appli-
3 cation containing the plan) resources
4 and services the State can deploy, in-
5 cluding the coordinated use of the
6 Early and Periodic Screening, Diag-
7 nosis, and Treatment program under
8 the Medicaid program carried out
9 under title XIX of the Social Security
10 Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) and de-
11 velopmental screening services avail-
12 able under section 619 and part C of
13 the Individuals with Disabilities Edu-
14 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et
15 seq.); in conducting developmental
16 screenings and providing referrals to
17 services, when appropriate, for chil-
18 dren who receive assistance under this
19 subchapter; and

20 “(II) a description of how a fam-
21 ily or eligible child care provider may
22 utilize the resources and services de-
23 scribed in subclause (I) to obtain de-
24 velopmental screenings for children
25 who receive assistance under this sub-

1 chapter who may be at risk for cog-
 2 nitive or other developmental delays;
 3 and

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

12 “(F) COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LICENSING
 13 REQUIREMENTS.—

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

21 “(ii) LICENSE EXEMPTION.—If the
 22 State uses funding received under this sub-
 23 chapter to support a child care provider
 24 that is exempt from the corresponding li-
 25 censing requirements described in clause

1 (i), the plan shall include a description
2 stating—

3 “(I) how children receiving serv-
4 ices from such a provider will receive
5 services that are comparable in safety
6 and quality to the services received by
7 children served by licensed child care
8 providers; and

9 “(II) why such licensing exemp-
10 tion does not endanger the health,
11 safety, or development of children who
12 receive services from child care pro-
13 viders who are exempt from such re-
14 quirements.

15 “(G) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—

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

1 “(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall
2 provide an assurance that such training re-
3 quirements—

4 “(I) provide a set of workforce
5 and competency standards for child
6 care providers that provide services
7 described in clause (i);

8 “(II) are developed in consulta-
9 tion with the State Advisory Council
10 on Early Childhood Education and
11 Care (designated or established pursu-
12 ant to section 642B(b)(1)(A) of the
13 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
14 9837b(b)(1)(A)));

15 “(III) include an evidence-based
16 training framework that is designed to
17 promote children’s learning and devel-
18 opment and school readiness and to
19 improve child outcomes, including
20 school readiness;

21 “(IV) incorporate knowledge and
22 application of the State’s early learn-
23 ing and developmental guidelines and,
24 where applicable, the State’s child de-
25 velopment and health standards; and

1 “(V) to the extent practicable,
2 are appropriate for a population of
3 children that includes—

4 “(aa) different age groups
5 (such as infants, toddlers, and
6 preschoolers);

7 “(bb) English learners; and

8 “(cc) children with disabili-
9 ties.

10 “(iii) PROGRESSION OF PROFES-
11 SIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—In developing the
12 requirements, the State shall develop a
13 statewide progression of professional devel-
14 opment designed to improve the skills and
15 knowledge of the workforce, which may in-
16 clude the acquisition of course credit in
17 postsecondary education or of a credential,
18 aligned with the framework.

19 “(iv) ALIGNMENT.—The State shall
20 engage the State Advisory Council on
21 Early Childhood Education and Care, and
22 may engage institutions of higher edu-
23 cation (as defined in section 102 of the
24 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
25 1002)), and other training providers in

1 aligning training opportunities with the
2 State's training framework.

3 “(v) CREDENTIALS.—The Secretary
4 shall not require an individual or entity
5 that provides child care services for which
6 assistance is provided in accordance with
7 this subchapter to acquire a credential to
8 provide such services. Nothing in this sec-
9 tion shall be construed to prohibit a State
10 from requiring a credential.

11 “(H) CHILD-TO-PROVIDER RATIO STAND-
12 ARDS.—

13 “(i) STANDARDS.—The plan shall de-
14 scribe child care standards, for child care
15 for which assistance is made available in
16 accordance with this subchapter, appro-
17 priate to the type of child care setting in-
18 volved, that address—

19 “(I) group size limits for specific
20 age populations;

21 “(II) the appropriate ratio be-
22 tween the number of children and the
23 number of providers, in terms of the
24 age of the children in child care, as
25 determined by the State; and

1 “(III) required qualifications for
2 such providers.

3 “(ii) CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary
4 may offer guidance to States on child-to-
5 provider ratios described in clause (i) ac-
6 cording to setting and age group but shall
7 not require that States maintain specific
8 child-to-provider ratios for providers who
9 receive assistance under this subchapter.

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

19 “(i) shall relate to matters including
20 health and safety topics (including preven-
21 tion of shaken baby syndrome and abusive
22 head trauma) consisting of—

23 “(I) the prevention and control of
24 infectious diseases (including immuni-
25 zation) and the establishment of a

1 grace period that allows homeless chil-
2 dren to receive services under this
3 subchapter while their families are
4 taking any necessary action to comply
5 with immunization and other health
6 and safety requirements;

7 “(II) handwashing and universal
8 health precautions;

9 “(III) the administration of
10 medication, consistent with standards
11 for parental consent;

12 “(IV) the prevention of and re-
13 sponse to emergencies due to food and
14 other allergic reactions;

15 “(V) prevention of sudden infant
16 death syndrome and use of safe sleep-
17 ing practices;

18 “(VI) sanitary methods of food
19 handling;

20 “(VII) building and physical
21 premises safety;

22 “(VIII) emergency response plan-
23 ning including disaster preparation;

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

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

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

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

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

22 “~~(ii)~~ may include requirements relat-
23 ing to nutrition and access to physical ac-
24 tivity.

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

10 “(K) ENFORCEMENT OF LICENSING AND
11 OTHER REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.—The
12 plan shall include a certification that the State,
13 not later than 2 years after the date of enact-
14 ment of the Child Care and Development Block
15 Grant Act of 2013, shall have in effect policies
16 and practices, applicable to licensing for child
17 care providers that provide services for which
18 assistance is made available in accordance with
19 this subchapter and the facilities of those pro-
20 viders, that—

21 “(i) ensure that individuals who are
22 hired as licensing inspectors in the State
23 are qualified to inspect those child care
24 providers and facilities and have received
25 training in related health and safety re-

1 requirements, child development, child abuse
2 prevention and detection, program man-
3 agement, and relevant law enforcement;

4 “(ii) require licensing inspectors of
5 those child care providers and facilities to
6 perform inspections, with—

7 “(I) not less than 1 prelicensure
8 health, safety, and fire inspection of
9 each such child care provider and fa-
10 cility in the State; and

11 “(II) not less than annually, a
12 health, safety, and fire inspection
13 (which shall be unannounced) of each
14 such child care provider and facility in
15 the State; and

16 “(iii) require the ratio of licensing in-
17 spectors to such child care providers and
18 facilities in the State to be maintained at
19 a level sufficient to enable the State to
20 conduct inspections of such child care pro-
21 viders and facilities on a timely basis in ac-
22 cordance with Federal and State law.

23 “(L) COMPLIANCE WITH CHILD ABUSE RE-
24 PORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall in-
25 clude a certification that child care providers

1 within the State will comply with the child
 2 abuse reporting requirements of section
 3 106(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Child Abuse Prevention
 4 and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.
 5 5106a(b)(2)(B)(i)).

6 “(M) MEETING THE NEEDS OF CERTAIN
 7 POPULATIONS.—The plan shall describe how
 8 the State will develop and implement strategies
 9 (which may include the provision of compensa-
 10 tion at higher payment rates and bonuses to
 11 child care providers; the provision of direct con-
 12 tracts or grants to community-based organiza-
 13 tions; or other means determined by the State)
 14 to increase the supply and improve the quality
 15 of child care for—

16 “(i) children in underserved areas;

17 “(ii) infants and toddlers;

18 “(iii) children with disabilities, as de-
 19 fined in subparagraphs (A) and (D) of sec-
 20 tion 658P(3); and

21 “(iv) children who receive care during
 22 nontraditional hours.

23 “(N) PROTECTION FOR WORKING PAR-
 24 ENTS.—

1 “(i) REDETERMINATION PROCESS.—

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

15 “(ii) MINIMUM PERIOD.—

16 “(I) 12-MONTH PERIOD.—The
17 plan shall demonstrate that each child
18 who receives assistance under this
19 subchapter in the State will be consid-
20 ered to meet all eligibility require-
21 ments for such assistance (except for
22 a factor described in clause (iii); for a
23 State not covered by clause (iii)) and
24 will receive such assistance, for not
25 less than 12 months before the State

1 redetermines the eligibility of the child
2 under this subchapter, regardless of a
3 change in the status of the child's
4 parent as working or attending a job
5 training or educational program or a
6 change in family income for the
7 child's family, if that family income
8 does not exceed 85 percent of the
9 State median income for a family of
10 the same size.

11 ~~“(II) FLUCTUATIONS IN EARN-~~
12 ~~INGS.—~~The plan shall demonstrate
13 how the State's processes for initial
14 determination and redetermination of
15 such eligibility take into account ir-
16 regular fluctuations in earnings.

17 ~~“(iii) PERIOD BEFORE TERMI-~~
18 ~~NATION.—~~At the option of the State, the
19 plan shall demonstrate that the State will
20 not terminate assistance provided to carry
21 out this subchapter based on a factor con-
22 sisting of a parent's loss of work or ces-
23 sation of attendance at a job training or
24 educational program for which the family
25 was receiving the assistance, without con-

1 continuing the assistance for a reasonable pe-
 2 riod of time, of not less than 3 months,
 3 after such loss or cessation in order for the
 4 parent to engage in a job search and re-
 5 sume work, or resume attendance at a job
 6 training or educational program, as soon
 7 as possible.

8 “(iv) GRADUATED PHASEOUT OF
 9 CARE.—The plan shall describe the policies
 10 and procedures that are in place to allow
 11 for provision of continued assistance to
 12 carry out this subchapter, for a period of
 13 not to exceed 12 months, for children of
 14 working parents who become ineligible for
 15 assistance to carry out this subchapter
 16 during the redetermination process due to
 17 a modest increase in the parents’ income,
 18 if the family income for the family involved
 19 does not exceed 85 percent of the State
 20 median income for a family of the same
 21 size.

22 “(O) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PRO-
 23 GRAMS.—

24 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall de-
 25 scribe how the State, in order to expand

1 accessibility and continuity of quality early
2 childhood education and care, and assist
3 children enrolled in part-day prekindergarten or part-day Head Start programs to
4 receive full-day services, will coordinate the
5 services supported to carry out this sub-
6 chapter with—

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

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

19 “(III) programs carried out
20 under section 619 and part C of the
21 Individuals with Disabilities Edu-
22 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et
23 seq.);

24 “(IV) the maternal, infant, and
25 early childhood home visiting pro-

1 grams authorized under section 511
 2 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 3 711); as added by section 2951 of the
 4 Patient Protection and Affordable
 5 Care Act;

6 “(V) State and locally funded
 7 early childhood education and care
 8 programs;

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

16 “(VII) other Federal programs
 17 supporting early childhood education
 18 and care activities.

19 “(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—
 20 Nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to
 21 affect the priority of children described in
 22 clause (i) to receive full-day prekind-
 23 ergarten or Head Start program services.

24 “(P) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—

25 The plan shall demonstrate how the State en-

1 encourages partnerships among State agencies,
2 other public agencies, and private entities to le-
3 verage existing service delivery systems (as of
4 the date of the submission of the application
5 containing the plan) for early childhood edu-
6 cation and care and to increase the supply and
7 quality of child care services for children who
8 are less than 13 years of age, such as by imple-
9 menting voluntary shared services alliance mod-
10 els to allow providers more time and resources
11 to provide higher quality of care at lower cost
12 by realizing small economies of scale.

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

22 “(R) CONSULTATION.—The plan shall in-
23 clude a certification that the State has devel-
24 oped the plan in consultation with the State
25 Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education

1 and Care established pursuant to section
2 642B(b)(1)(A) of the Head Start Act (42
3 U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)).

4 “(S) PAYMENT PRACTICES.—The plan
5 shall include a certification that the payment
6 practices of child care providers in the State
7 that serve children who receive assistance under
8 this subchapter reflect generally accepted pay-
9 ment practices of child care providers in the
10 State that serve children who do not receive as-
11 sistance under this subchapter, so as to provide
12 stability of funding and encourage more child
13 care providers to serve children who receive as-
14 sistance under this subchapter.

15 “(T) EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOP-
16 MENTAL GUIDELINES.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall in-
18 clude an assurance that the State will de-
19 velop or implement early learning and de-
20 velopmental guidelines that are appropriate
21 for children from birth through entry into
22 kindergarten, describing what such chil-
23 dren should know and be able to do, and
24 covering the essential domains of early
25 childhood education and care and early

1 childhood development for use statewide by
2 child care providers. Such child care pro-
3 viders shall—

4 “(I) be licensed or regulated
5 under State law; and

6 “(II) not be a relative of all chil-
7 dren for whom the provider provides
8 child care services.

9 “(ii) ALIGNMENT.—The guidelines
10 shall be research-based; be developmentally
11 appropriate; and be aligned with State
12 standards for education in kindergarten
13 through grade 3.

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

20 “(I) will be the sole basis for a
21 child care provider being determined
22 to be ineligible to participate in the
23 program carried out under this sub-
24 chapter;

1 “(II) will be used as the primary
2 or sole basis to provide a reward or
3 sanction for an individual provider; or

4 “(III) will be used as the primary
5 or sole method for assessing program
6 effectiveness.

7 “(iv) EXCEPTIONS.—Nothing in this
8 subchapter shall preclude the State using a
9 single assessment for children for—

10 “(I) improving instruction or a
11 classroom environment;

12 “(II) targeting professional devel-
13 opment to a provider;

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

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

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

1 “(v) NO FEDERAL CONTROL.—Nothing
2 ing in this section shall be construed to au-
3 thorize an officer or employee of the Fed-
4 eral Government to—

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

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

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

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

23 “(III) require a State to submit
24 such standards or measures for re-
25 view.”;

1 (3) in paragraph (3)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “as
3 required under” and inserting “in accordance
4 with”;

5 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

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

8 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The State”;

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

1 clude an activity described in clause (ii))”;

2 and

3 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(ii) CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND RE-
6 FERRAL SYSTEM.—

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

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

23 “(aa) provide parents in the
24 State with consumer education
25 information referred to in para-

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

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

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

1 C of the Individuals with Disabil-
2 ities Education Act (42 U.S.C.
3 1419, 1431 et seq.); for children
4 with disabilities (as defined in
5 section 602 of such Act (20
6 U.S.C. 1401));

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

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

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

24 (C) in subparagraph (D)—

1 (i) by striking “1997 through 2012”
2 and inserting “2014 through 2019”; and

3 (ii) by striking “paragraph (2)(H)”
4 and inserting “paragraph (2)(M)”; and
5 (D) by adding at the end the following:

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

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

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

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

19 “(4) PAYMENT RATES.—

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

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

10 “(B) SURVEY.—The State plan shall—

11 “(i) demonstrate that the State has,
12 after consulting with the State Advisory
13 Council on Early Childhood Education and
14 Care, local child care program administra-
15 tors, local child care resource and referral
16 agencies, and other appropriate entities,
17 developed and conducted (not earlier than
18 2 years before the date of the submission
19 of the application containing the State
20 plan) a statistically valid and reliable sur-
21 vey of the market rates for child care serv-
22 ices in the State (that reflects variations in
23 the cost of child care services by geo-
24 graphic area, type of provider, and age of
25 child);

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

10 “(iii) describe how the State will set
11 payment rates for child care services; for
12 which assistance is provided in accordance
13 with this subchapter, in accordance with
14 the results of the market rates survey con-
15 ducted pursuant to clause (i) without, to
16 the extent practicable, reducing the num-
17 ber of families in the State receiving such
18 assistance to carry out this subchapter, rel-
19 ative to the number of such families on the
20 date of enactment of the Child Care and
21 Development Block Grant Act of 2013;
22 and

23 “(iv) describe how the State will pro-
24 vide for timely payment for child care serv-

1 ices provided in accordance with this sub-
2 chapter.

3 “(C) CONSTRUCTION.—

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

7 “(ii) NO PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN
8 DIFFERENT RATES.—Nothing in this sub-
9 chapter shall be construed to prevent a
10 State from differentiating the payment
11 rates described in subparagraph (B)(iii) on
12 the basis of such factors as—

13 “(I) geographic location of child
14 care providers (such as location in an
15 urban or rural area);

16 “(II) the age or particular needs
17 of children (such as the needs of chil-
18 dren with disabilities and children
19 served by child protective services);

20 “(III) whether the providers pro-
21 vide child care during weekend and
22 other nontraditional hours; or

23 “(IV) the State’s determination
24 that such differentiated payment rates
25 are needed to enable a parent to

1 choose child care that is of high qual-
 2 ity.”; and

3 ~~(5)~~ in paragraph ~~(5)~~, by inserting “that is not
 4 a barrier to families receiving assistance under this
 5 subchapter” after “cost sharing”.

6 ~~(c)~~ TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 658F(b)(2)
 7 of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of
 8 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858d(b)(2)) is amended by striking
 9 “section 658E(c)(2)(F)” and inserting “section
 10 658E(c)(2)(I)”.

11 **SEC. 6. ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CHILD**
 12 **CARE.**

13 Section 658G of the Child Care and Development
 14 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858e) is amended
 15 to read as follows:

16 **“SEC. 658G. ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF**
 17 **CHILD CARE.**

18 **“(a) RESERVATION.—**

19 **“(1) RESERVATION FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING**
 20 **TO THE QUALITY OF CHILD CARE SERVICES.—A**
 21 State that receives funds to carry out this sub-
 22 chapter for a fiscal year shall reserve and use a por-
 23 tion of such funds, in accordance with paragraph
 24 (2), for activities provided directly, or through
 25 grants or contracts with local child care resource

1 and referral organizations or other appropriate enti-
 2 ties, that are designed to improve the quality of
 3 child care services and increase parental options for,
 4 and access to, high-quality child care, provided in ac-
 5 cordance with this subchapter.

6 “(2) AMOUNT OF RESERVATIONS.—Such State
 7 shall reserve and use for the activities described in
 8 paragraph (1), not less than—

9 “(A) 6 percent of such funds in 2014;

10 “(B) 8 percent of such funds in 2016;

11 “(C) 10 percent of such funds in 2018 and
 12 each succeeding year; and

13 “(D) 3 percent of such funds in 2014 and
 14 each succeeding year to carry out the activities
 15 described in paragraph (1), as such activities
 16 relate to the quality of care for infants and tod-
 17 dlers.

18 “(b) ACTIVITIES.—Funds reserved under subsection
 19 (a) shall be used to carry out not less than 2 of the fol-
 20 lowing activities:

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

24 “(A) offering child care providers training
 25 and professional development that is intentional

1 and sequential and leads to a higher level of
2 skill or certification;

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

10 “(C) offering training, professional devel-
11 opment, and educational opportunities for child
12 care providers that relate to the use of develop-
13 mentally appropriate and age-appropriate cur-
14 ricula, and early childhood teaching strategies,
15 that are scientifically based and aligned with
16 the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive de-
17 velopment of children, including offering spe-
18 cialized training for child care providers who
19 care for infants and toddlers, children who are
20 English learners, and children with disabilities
21 (as defined in section 602 of the Individuals
22 with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
23 1401));

24 “(D) providing training in early mathe-
25 matics and early language and literacy develop-

1 ment and effective instructional practices to
2 support mathematics and language and literacy
3 development in young children;

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

6 “(F) including effective behavior manage-
7 ment strategies, including positive behavioral
8 interventions and supports, that promote posi-
9 tive social and emotional development and re-
10 duce challenge behaviors;

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

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

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

1 “(2) Supporting the use of the early learning
2 and developmental guidelines described in section
3 658E by—

4 “(A) developing and implementing such
5 early learning and developmental guidelines for
6 early language and literacy skills and activities
7 and pre-numeracy and mathematics skills and
8 activities, for child care programs in the State,
9 that are aligned with State standards for edu-
10 cation in kindergarten through grade 12 edu-
11 cation or the State’s general goals for school
12 readiness; and

13 “(B) providing technical assistance to en-
14 hance early learning for preschool and school-
15 aged children in order to promote language and
16 literacy skills, foster school readiness, and sup-
17 port later school success.

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

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

23 “(B) build on licensing standards and
24 other State regulatory standards for such pro-
25 viders;

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

3 “(D) describe the quality of early learning
4 facilities;

5 “(E) build the capacity of State early
6 learning programs and communities to promote
7 parents’ and families’ understanding of the
8 State’s early learning system and the ratings of
9 the programs in which the child is enrolled; and

10 “(F) provide, to the maximum extent prac-
11 ticable, financial incentives and other supports
12 designed to achieve and sustain higher levels of
13 quality.

14 “(4) Improving the supply and quality of child
15 care programs and services for infants and toddlers
16 through activities which may include—

17 “(A) establishing or expanding neighbor-
18 hood-based high-quality comprehensive family
19 and child development centers, which may serve
20 as resources to child care providers in order to
21 improve the quality of early childhood education
22 and care and early childhood development serv-
23 ices provided to infants and toddlers from low-
24 income families and to help eligible child care
25 providers improve their capacity to offer high-

1 quality care to infants and toddlers from low-
2 income families;

3 “(B) establishing or expanding the oper-
4 ation of community or neighborhood-based fam-
5 ily child care networks;

6 “(C) supporting statewide networks of in-
7 fant and toddler child care specialists, including
8 specialists who have knowledge regarding infant
9 and toddler development and curriculum and
10 program implementation for children with dis-
11 abilities, which may include specialists who pro-
12 vide such services through part C of the Indi-
13 viduals with Disabilities Education Act (20
14 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.);

15 “(D) carrying out initiatives to improve
16 the quality of the infant and toddler child care
17 workforce, such as providing relevant training,
18 professional development, or mentoring oppor-
19 tunities and linking such opportunities to career
20 pathways, developing career pathways for such
21 providers, and improving the State credential-
22 ing of eligible providers caring for infants and
23 toddlers; and

24 “(E) if applicable, developing infant and
25 toddler components within the State’s quality

1 rating system described in paragraph (3) for
2 child care providers for infants and toddlers, or
3 the development of infant and toddler compo-
4 nents in a State's child care licensing regula-
5 tions or early childhood guidelines;

6 “(F) improving the ability of parents to ac-
7 cess information about high-quality infant and
8 toddler care; and

9 “(G) carrying out other activities deter-
10 mined by the State to improve the quality of in-
11 fant and toddler care provided in the State, and
12 for which there is evidence that the activities
13 will lead to improved infant and toddler safety,
14 infant and toddler development, or infant and
15 toddler well-being.

16 “(5) Promoting broad child care provider par-
17 ticipation in the quality rating system described in
18 paragraph (3).

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

21 “(7) Facilitating compliance with State require-
22 ments for inspection, monitoring, training, and
23 health and safety, and with State licensing stand-
24 ards.

1 “(8) Evaluating and assessing the quality and
2 effectiveness of child care programs and services of-
3 fered in the State, including evaluating how such
4 programs and services may improve the overall
5 school readiness of young children.

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

10 “(10) Supporting State or local efforts to de-
11 velop or adopt high-quality program standards relat-
12 ing to health, mental health, nutrition, physical ac-
13 tivity, and physical development and providing re-
14 sources to enable eligible child care providers to
15 meet, exceed, or sustain success in meeting or ex-
16 ceeding such standards.

17 “(11) Carrying out other activities determined
18 by the State to improve the quality of child care
19 services provided in the State, and for which meas-
20 urement of outcomes relating to improved provider
21 preparedness, child safety, child well-being, or school
22 readiness is possible.

23 “(e) CERTIFICATION.—Beginning with fiscal year
24 2014, at the beginning of each fiscal year, the State shall
25 annually submit to the Secretary a certification containing

1 an assurance that the State was in compliance with sub-
2 section (a) during the preceding fiscal year and describes
3 how the State used funds received under this subchapter
4 to comply with subsection (a) during that preceding fiscal
5 year.

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

10 “(1) the amount of funds that are reserved
11 under subsection (a);

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

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

17 “(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall
18 offer technical assistance, in accordance with section
19 658I(a)(3), which may include technical assistance
20 through the use of grants or cooperative agreements, to
21 States for the activities described in subsection (b).

22 “(f) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall
23 be construed as providing the Secretary the authority to
24 regulate, monitor, or dictate State child care quality activi-
25 ties or progress in implementing those activities.”

1 **SEC. 7. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

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

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

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

8 “(1) requirements, policies, and procedures to
9 require and conduct criminal background checks for
10 child care staff members (including prospective child
11 care staff members) of child care providers described
12 in subsection (c)(1); and

13 “(2) licensing, regulation, and registration re-
14 quirements, as applicable, that prohibit the employ-
15 ment of child care staff members as described in
16 subsection (c).

17 “(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—A criminal background check
18 for a child care staff member under subsection (a) shall
19 include—

20 “(1) a search of each State criminal and sex of-
21 fender registry or repository in the State where the
22 child care staff member resides and each State
23 where such staff member resided during the pre-
24 ceeding 10 years;

25 “(2) a search of State-based child abuse and
26 neglect registries and databases in the State where

1 the child care staff member resides and each State
2 where such staff member previously resided during
3 the preceding 10 years;

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

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

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

13 “(c) PROHIBITIONS.—

14 “(1) CHILD CARE STAFF MEMBERS.—A child
15 care staff member shall be ineligible for employment
16 by a child care provider that is licensed, regulated,
17 or registered by the State or for which assistance is
18 provided in accordance with this subchapter, if such
19 individual—

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

22 “(B) knowingly makes a materially false
23 statement in connection with such criminal
24 background check;

1 ~~“(C) is registered, or is required to be reg-~~
2 ~~istered, on a State sex offender registry or the~~
3 ~~National Sex Offender Registry established~~
4 ~~under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and~~
5 ~~Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16901 et seq.);~~
6 ~~or~~

7 ~~“(D) has been convicted of a felony con-~~
8 ~~sisting of—~~

9 ~~“(i) murder, as described in section~~
10 ~~1111 of title 18, United States Code;~~

11 ~~“(ii) child abuse or neglect;~~

12 ~~“(iii) a crime against children, includ-~~
13 ~~ing child pornography;~~

14 ~~“(iv) spousal abuse;~~

15 ~~“(v) a crime involving rape or sexual~~
16 ~~assault;~~

17 ~~“(vi) kidnapping;~~

18 ~~“(vii) arson;~~

19 ~~“(viii) physical assault or battery; or~~

20 ~~“(ix) subject to subsection (e)(4), a~~
21 ~~drug-related offense committed during the~~
22 ~~preceding 5 years.~~

23 ~~“(2) CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.—A child care~~
24 ~~provider described in paragraph (1) shall be ineli-~~
25 ~~gible for assistance provided in accordance with this~~

1 subchapter if the provider employs a staff member
 2 who is ineligible for employment under paragraph
 3 (1).

4 ~~“(d) SUBMISSION OF REQUESTS FOR BACKGROUND~~
 5 ~~CHECKS.—~~

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

12 ~~“(2) STAFF MEMBERS.—Subject to paragraph~~
 13 ~~(4), in the case of an individual who became a child~~
 14 ~~care staff member before the date of enactment of~~
 15 ~~the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of~~
 16 ~~2013, the provider shall submit such a request—~~

17 ~~“(A) prior to the last day described in sub-~~
 18 ~~section (i)(1); and~~

19 ~~“(B) not less often than once during each~~
 20 ~~5-year period following the first submission date~~
 21 ~~under this paragraph for that staff member.~~

22 ~~“(3) PROSPECTIVE STAFF MEMBERS.—Subject~~
 23 ~~to paragraph (4), in the case of an individual who~~
 24 ~~is a prospective child care staff member on or after~~

1 that date of enactment, the provider shall submit
2 such a request—

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

6 “(B) not less often than once during each
7 5-year period following the first submission date
8 under this paragraph for that staff member.

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

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

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

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

21 “(B) the State provides to the provider a
22 qualifying background check result, consistent
23 with this subchapter, for the child care staff
24 member, who may have become separated from
25 employment from a child care provider within

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

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

5 “(1) BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS.—The
6 State shall carry out the request of a child care pro-
7 vider for a criminal background check as expedi-
8 tiously as possible and shall provide the results of
9 the criminal background check to such provider and
10 to the current or prospective staff member.

11 “(2) PRIVACY.—

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

21 “(B) INELIGIBLE STAFF MEMBER.—If the
22 child care staff member is ineligible for such
23 employment due to the background check, the
24 State will, when providing the results of the
25 background check, include information related

1 to each disqualifying crime, in a report to the
2 staff member or prospective staff member.

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

10 “(3) APPEALS.—

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

19 “(B) APPEALS PROCESS.—The State shall
20 ensure that—

21 “(i) the appeals process is completed
22 in a timely manner for each child care
23 staff member;

1 “(ii) each child care staff member
2 shall be given notice of the opportunity to
3 appeal; and

4 “(iii) a child care staff member will
5 receive instructions about how to complete
6 the appeals process if the child care staff
7 member wishes to challenge the accuracy
8 or completeness of the information in his
9 or her criminal background report.

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

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

23 “(f) FEES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.—Fees that a
24 State may charge for the costs of processing applications
25 and administering a criminal background check as re-

1 quired by this section shall not exceed the actual costs to
2 the State for the processing and administration.

3 “(g) CONSTRUCTION.—

4 “(1) DISQUALIFICATION FOR OTHER CRIMES.—

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

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

18 “(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

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

23 “(A) is not an individual who is related to
24 all children for whom child care services are
25 provided; and

1 ~~“(B) is licensed, regulated, or registered~~
 2 ~~under State law or receives assistance provided~~
 3 ~~in accordance with this subchapter; and~~

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

8 ~~“(A) who is employed by a child care pro-~~
 9 ~~vider for compensation;~~

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

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

16 ~~“(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—~~

17 ~~“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives funds~~
 18 ~~under this subchapter shall meet the requirements of~~
 19 ~~this section for the provision of criminal background~~
 20 ~~checks for child care staff members described in sub-~~
 21 ~~section (d)(1) not later than the last day of the sec-~~
 22 ~~ond full fiscal year after the date of enactment of~~
 23 ~~the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of~~
 24 ~~1990.~~

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

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

13 **SEC. 8. REPORTS AND INFORMATION.**

14 (a) ADMINISTRATION.—Section 658I(a)(2) of the
15 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42
16 U.S.C. 9858g(a)(2)) is amended by inserting a comma
17 after “publish”.

18 (b) REPORTS.—Section 658K(a) of such Act (42
19 U.S.C. 9858i(a)) is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (1)(B)—

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

23 (B) in clause (x), by striking the period
24 and inserting “; and”; and

1 (C) by inserting after clause (x), the fol-
2 lowing:

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

6 (2) in paragraph (2)—

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

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

12 (c) **REPORT BY SECRETARY.**—Section 658L of such
13 Act (42 U.S.C. 9858j) is amended—

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

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

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

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

20 (3) by striking “1998” and inserting “2015”;
21 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of
 2 2013) not publicly available, or is not required by
 3 this subchapter.”.

4 **SEC. 9. TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB SITE.**

5 Section 6580(a) of the Child Care and Development
 6 Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858m(a)) is amend-
 7 ed by adding at the end the following:

8 “(3) NATIONAL TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB
 9 SITE.—The Secretary shall reserve not less than
 10 \$1,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this
 11 subchapter for each fiscal year for the operation of
 12 a national toll-free hotline and Web site, under sec-
 13 tion 658L(b).”.

14 **SEC. 10. DEFINITIONS.**

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

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

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

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

24 “(B) a child who is eligible for early inter-
 25 vention services under part C of the Individuals

1 with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
2 1431 et seq.);

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

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

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

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

12 “(B) whose family income does not exceed
13 85 percent of the State median income for a
14 family of the same size; and

15 “(C) who—

16 “(i) resides with a parent or parents
17 who are working or attending a job train-
18 ing or educational program; or

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

22 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through
23 (9) as paragraphs (6) through (10), respectively;

24 (3) by inserting before paragraph (6), as redес-
25 igned by paragraph (2), the following:

1 “(5) ENGLISH LEARNER.—The term ‘English
2 learner’ means an individual who is limited English
3 proficient, as defined in section 9101 of the Elemen-
4 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
5 U.S.C. 7801) or section 637 of the Head Start Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 9832).”;

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

9 (A) in clause (i), by striking “section
10 658E(c)(2)(E)” and inserting “section
11 658E(c)(2)(F)”; and

12 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “section
13 658E(c)(2)(F)” and inserting “section
14 658E(c)(2)(I)”; and

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

19 (6) in paragraph (10), as redesignated by para-
20 graph (2), by inserting “, foster parent,” after
21 “guardian”.

22 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

23 *This Act may be cited as the “Child Care and Develop-*
24 *ment Block Grant Act of 2014”.*

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

2 *Section 658A of the Child Care and Development Block*
3 *Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9801 note) is amended to*
4 *read as follows:*

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

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

8 *“(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this subchapter*
9 *are—*

10 *“(1) to allow each State maximum flexibility in*
11 *developing child care programs and policies that best*
12 *suit the needs of children and parents within that*
13 *State;*

14 *“(2) to promote parental choice to empower*
15 *working parents to make their own decisions regard-*
16 *ing the child care that best suits their family’s needs;*

17 *“(3) to assist States in providing high-quality*
18 *child care services to parents trying to achieve inde-*
19 *pendence from public assistance;*

20 *“(4) to assist States in improving the overall*
21 *quality of child care services and programs by imple-*
22 *menting the health, safety, licensing, training, and*
23 *oversight standards established in this subchapter and*
24 *in State law (including regulations);*

25 *“(5) to improve school readiness by having chil-*
26 *dren, families, and child care providers engage in ac-*

1 *tivities, in child care settings, that are develop-*
2 *mentally appropriate and age-appropriate for the*
3 *children and that promote children’s language and*
4 *literacy and mathematics skills, social and emotional*
5 *development, physical health and development, and*
6 *approaches to learning;*

7 “(6) to encourage States to provide consumer
8 education information to help parents make informed
9 choices about child care services and to promote in-
10 volvement by parents and family members in the edu-
11 cation of their children in child care settings;

12 “(7) to increase the number and percentage of
13 low-income children in high-quality child care set-
14 tings; and

15 “(8) to improve the coordination and delivery of
16 early childhood education and care (including child
17 care).”.

18 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 *Section 658B of the Child Care and Development Block*
20 *Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858) is amended by striking*
21 *“subchapter” and all that follows, and inserting “sub-*
22 *chapter, such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal*
23 *years 2015 through 2020.”.*

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

2 (a) *DESIGNATION.*—Section 658D(a) of the Child Care
3 and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
4 9858b(a)) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “chief executive officer” and in-
6 sserting “Governor”; and

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

13 (b) *COLLABORATION WITH TRIBES.*—Section
14 658D(b)(1) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant
15 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858b(b)(1)) is amended—

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

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

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

21 “(E) at the option of an Indian tribe or
22 tribal organization in the State, collaborate and
23 coordinate with such Indian tribe or tribal orga-
24 nization in the development of the State plan.”.

1 **SEC. 5. APPLICATION AND PLAN.**

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

5 (b) *POLICIES AND PROCEDURES*.—Section 658E(c) of
 6 the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990
 7 (42 U.S.C. 9858c(c)) is amended—

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

10 (2) in paragraph (2)—

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

13 (B) by striking subparagraphs (D) through
 14 (H); and

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

16 “(D) *MONITORING AND INSPECTION RE-*
 17 *PORTS*.—The plan shall include a certification
 18 that the State, not later than 1 year after the
 19 State has in effect the policies and practices de-
 20 scribed in subparagraph (K)(i), will make public
 21 by electronic means, in a consumer-friendly and
 22 easily accessible format, organized by provider,
 23 the results of monitoring and inspection reports,
 24 including those due to major substantiated com-
 25 plaints about failure to comply with this sub-
 26 chapter and State child care policies, as well as

1 *the number of deaths, serious injuries, and in-*
2 *stances of substantiated child abuse that occurred*
3 *in child care settings each year, for eligible child*
4 *care providers within the State. The results shall*
5 *also include information on the date of such an*
6 *inspection and, where applicable, information on*
7 *corrective action taken.*

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

16 “(i) *information that will promote in-*
17 *formed child care choices and that con-*
18 *cerns—*

19 “(I) *the availability of child care*
20 *services provided through programs au-*
21 *thorized under this subchapter and, if*
22 *feasible, other child care services and*
23 *other programs provided in the State*
24 *for which the family may be eligible;*

1 “(II) if available, information
2 about the quality of providers, includ-
3 ing information from a Quality Rat-
4 ing and Improvement System;

5 “(III) information, made avail-
6 able through a State website, describ-
7 ing the State process for licensing child
8 care providers, the State processes for
9 conducting background checks, and
10 monitoring and inspections, of child
11 care providers, and the offenses that
12 prevent individuals and entities from
13 serving as child care providers in the
14 State;

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

17 “(V) other programs for which
18 families that receive child care services
19 for which financial assistance is pro-
20 vided in accordance with this sub-
21 chapter may be eligible, including the
22 program of block grants to States for
23 temporary assistance for needy fami-
24 lies established under part A of title IV
25 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.

1 601 et seq.), *Head Start and Early*
2 *Head Start programs carried out*
3 *under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.*
4 *9831 et seq.), the program carried out*
5 *under the Low-Income Home Energy*
6 *Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8621*
7 *et seq.), the supplemental nutrition as-*
8 *istance program established under the*
9 *Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7*
10 *U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), the special supple-*
11 *mental nutrition program for women,*
12 *infants, and children established under*
13 *section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of*
14 *1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), the child and*
15 *adult care food program established*
16 *under section 17 of the Richard B.*
17 *Russell National School Lunch Act (42*
18 *U.S.C. 1766), and the Medicaid and*
19 *State children’s health insurance pro-*
20 *grams under titles XIX and XXI of the*
21 *Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et*
22 *seq., 1397aa et seq.);*

23 “(VI) *programs carried out under*
24 *section 619 and part C of the Individ-*

1 *uals with Disabilities Education Act*
2 *(20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.); and*

3 “(VII) *research and best practices*
4 *concerning children’s development, in-*
5 *cluding language and cognitive devel-*
6 *opment, development of early language*
7 *and literacy and mathematics skills,*
8 *social and emotional development,*
9 *meaningful parent and family engage-*
10 *ment, and physical health and develop-*
11 *ment (particularly healthy eating and*
12 *physical activity);*

13 “(ii) *information on developmental*
14 *screenings, including—*

15 “(I) *information on existing (as*
16 *of the date of submission of the appli-*
17 *cation containing the plan) resources*
18 *and services the State can deploy, in-*
19 *cluding the coordinated use of the*
20 *Early and Periodic Screening, Diag-*
21 *nosis, and Treatment program under*
22 *the Medicaid program carried out*
23 *under title XIX of the Social Security*
24 *Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) and devel-*
25 *opmental screening services available*

1 *under section 619 and part C of the*
2 *Individuals with Disabilities Edu-*
3 *cation Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et*
4 *seq.), in conducting developmental*
5 *screenings and providing referrals to*
6 *services, when appropriate, for children*
7 *who receive assistance under this sub-*
8 *chapter; and*

9 *“(II) a description of how a fam-*
10 *ily or eligible child care provider may*
11 *utilize the resources and services de-*
12 *scribed in subclause (I) to obtain devel-*
13 *opmental screenings for children who*
14 *receive assistance under this sub-*
15 *chapter who may be at risk for cog-*
16 *nitive or other developmental delays,*
17 *which may include social, emotional,*
18 *physical, or linguistic delays; and*

19 *“(iii) information, for parents receiv-*
20 *ing assistance under the program of block*
21 *grants to States for temporary assistance*
22 *for needy families under part A of title IV*
23 *of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et*
24 *seq.) and low-income parents, about eligi-*

1 *bility for assistance provided in accordance*
2 *with this subchapter.*

3 “(F) *COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LICENSING*
4 *REQUIREMENTS.—*

5 “(i) *IN GENERAL.—The plan shall in-*
6 *clude a certification that the State involved*
7 *has in effect licensing requirements applica-*
8 *ble to child care services provided within the*
9 *State, and provide a detailed description of*
10 *such requirements and of how such require-*
11 *ments are effectively enforced.*

12 “(ii) *LICENSE EXEMPTION.—If the*
13 *State uses funding received under this sub-*
14 *chapter to support a child care provider*
15 *that is exempt from the corresponding li-*
16 *censing requirements described in clause (i),*
17 *the plan shall include a description stating*
18 *why such licensing exemption does not en-*
19 *danger the health, safety, or development of*
20 *children who receive services from child care*
21 *providers who are exempt from such re-*
22 *quirements.*

23 “(iii) *REQUESTS FOR RELIEF.—As de-*
24 *scribed in section 658I(d), a State may re-*
25 *quest relief from a provision of Federal law*

1 *other than this subchapter that might con-*
2 *flict with a requirement of this subchapter,*
3 *including a licensing requirement.*

4 “(G) *TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.*—

5 “(i) *IN GENERAL.*—*The plan shall de-*
6 *scribe the training requirements that are in*
7 *effect within the State that are designed to*
8 *enable child care providers to promote the*
9 *social, emotional, physical, and cognitive*
10 *development of children and that are appli-*
11 *cable to child care providers that provide*
12 *services for which assistance is provided in*
13 *accordance with this subchapter in the*
14 *State.*

15 “(ii) *REQUIREMENTS.*—*The plan shall*
16 *provide an assurance that such training re-*
17 *quirements—*

18 “(I) *provide a set of workforce*
19 *and competency standards for child*
20 *care providers that provide services de-*
21 *scribed in clause (i);*

22 “(II) *are developed in consulta-*
23 *tion with the State Advisory Council*
24 *on Early Childhood Education and*
25 *Care (designated or established pursu-*

1 *ant to section 642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the*
2 *Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.*
3 *9837b(b)(1)(A)(i));*

4 *“(III) include an evidence-based*
5 *training framework that is designed to*
6 *promote children’s learning and devel-*
7 *opment and school readiness and to*
8 *improve child outcomes, including*
9 *school readiness;*

10 *“(IV) incorporate knowledge and*
11 *application of the State’s early learn-*
12 *ing and developmental guidelines*
13 *(where applicable), and the State’s*
14 *child development and health stand-*
15 *ards; and*

16 *“(V) to the extent practicable, are*
17 *appropriate for a population of chil-*
18 *dren that includes—*

19 *“(aa) different age groups*
20 *(such as infants, toddlers, and*
21 *preschoolers);*

22 *“(bb) English learners;*

23 *“(cc) children with disabil-*
24 *ities; and*

1 “(dd) *Native Americans, in-*
2 *cluding Indians, as the term is*
3 *defined in section 4 of the Indian*
4 *Self-Determination and Edu-*
5 *cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.*
6 *450b) (including Alaska Natives*
7 *within the meaning of that term),*
8 *and Native Hawaiians (as defined*
9 *in section 7207 of the Elementary*
10 *and Secondary Education Act of*
11 *1965 (20 U.S.C. 7517)).*

12 “(iii) *PROGRESSION OF PROFESSIONAL*
13 *DEVELOPMENT.—In developing the require-*
14 *ments, the State shall develop a statewide*
15 *progression of professional development de-*
16 *signed to improve the skills and knowledge*
17 *of the workforce—*

18 “(I) *which may include the acqui-*
19 *sition of course credit in postsecondary*
20 *education or of a credential, aligned*
21 *with the framework; and*

22 “(II) *which shall be accessible to*
23 *providers supported through Indian*
24 *tribes or tribal organizations that re-*
25 *ceive assistance under this subchapter.*

1 “(iv) *ALIGNMENT.*—*The State shall en-*
2 *gage the State Advisory Council on Early*
3 *Childhood Education and Care, and may*
4 *engage institutions of higher education (as*
5 *defined in section 102 of the Higher Edu-*
6 *cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)), and*
7 *other training providers in aligning train-*
8 *ing opportunities with the State’s training*
9 *framework.*

10 “(v) *CREDENTIALS.*—*The Secretary*
11 *shall not require an individual or entity*
12 *that provides child care services for which*
13 *assistance is provided in accordance with*
14 *this subchapter to acquire a credential to*
15 *provide such services. Nothing in this sec-*
16 *tion shall be construed to prohibit a State*
17 *from requiring a credential.*

18 “(H) *CHILD-TO-PROVIDER RATIO STAND-*
19 *ARDS.*—

20 “(i) *STANDARDS.*—*The plan shall de-*
21 *scribe child care standards, for child care*
22 *for which assistance is made available in*
23 *accordance with this subchapter, appro-*
24 *priate to the type of child care setting in-*
25 *volved, that address—*

1 “(I) *group size limits for specific*
2 *age populations;*

3 “(II) *the appropriate ratio be-*
4 *tween the number of children and the*
5 *number of providers, in terms of the*
6 *age of the children in child care, as de-*
7 *termined by the State; and*

8 “(III) *required qualifications for*
9 *such providers.*

10 “(ii) *CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary*
11 *may offer guidance to States on child-to-*
12 *provider ratios described in clause (i) ac-*
13 *ording to setting and age group but shall*
14 *not require that States maintain specific*
15 *child-to-provider ratios for providers who*
16 *receive assistance under this subchapter.*

17 “(I) *HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIRE-*
18 *MENTS.—The plan shall include a certification*
19 *that there are in effect within the State, under*
20 *State or local law, requirements designed to pro-*
21 *tect the health and safety of children that are ap-*
22 *plicable to child care providers that provide serv-*
23 *ices for which assistance is made available in ac-*
24 *cordance with this subchapter. Such require-*
25 *ments—*

1 “(i) shall relate to matters including
2 health and safety topics (including preven-
3 tion of shaken baby syndrome and abusive
4 head trauma) consisting of—

5 “(I) the prevention and control of
6 infectious diseases (including immuni-
7 zation) and the establishment of a
8 grace period that allows homeless chil-
9 dren to receive services under this sub-
10 chapter while their families are taking
11 any necessary action to comply with
12 immunization and other health and
13 safety requirements;

14 “(II) handwashing and universal
15 health precautions;

16 “(III) the administration of medi-
17 cation, consistent with standards for
18 parental consent;

19 “(IV) the prevention of and re-
20 sponse to emergencies due to food and
21 other allergic reactions;

22 “(V) prevention of sudden infant
23 death syndrome and use of safe sleep-
24 ing practices;

1 “(VI) *sanitary methods of food*
2 *handling;*

3 “(VII) *building and physical*
4 *premises safety;*

5 “(VIII) *emergency preparedness*
6 *and response planning for emergencies*
7 *resulting from a natural disaster, or a*
8 *man-caused event (such as violence at*
9 *a child care facility), within the mean-*
10 *ing of those terms under section*
11 *602(a)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford*
12 *Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-*
13 *ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5195a(a)(1));*

14 “(IX) *the handling and storage of*
15 *hazardous materials and the appro-*
16 *priate disposal of biocontaminants;*

17 “(X) *identification of and protec-*
18 *tion from hazards that can cause bod-*
19 *ily injury such as electrical hazards,*
20 *bodies of water, and vehicular traffic;*

21 “(XI) *for providers that offer*
22 *transportation, if applicable, appro-*
23 *priate precautions in transporting*
24 *children;*

1 “(XII) *first aid and cardiopulmo-*
2 *nary resuscitation; and*

3 “(XIII) *minimum health and*
4 *safety training, to be completed pre-*
5 *service or during an orientation pe-*
6 *riod, appropriate to the provider set-*
7 *ting involved that addresses each of the*
8 *requirements relating to matters de-*
9 *scribed in subclauses (I) through (XII);*
10 *and*

11 “(ii) *may include requirements relat-*
12 *ing to nutrition, access to physical activity,*
13 *or any other subject area determined by the*
14 *State to be necessary to promote child devel-*
15 *opment or to protect children’s health and*
16 *safety.*

17 “(J) *COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND LOCAL*
18 *HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.—The*
19 *plan shall include a certification that procedures*
20 *are in effect to ensure that child care providers*
21 *within the State, that provide services for which*
22 *assistance is made available in accordance with*
23 *this subchapter, comply with all applicable State*
24 *and local health and safety requirements as de-*
25 *scribed in subparagraph (I).*

1 “(K) *ENFORCEMENT OF LICENSING AND*
2 *OTHER REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.—*

3 “(i) *CERTIFICATION.—The plan shall*
4 *include a certification that the State, not*
5 *later than 2 years after the date of enact-*
6 *ment of the Child Care and Development*
7 *Block Grant Act of 2014, shall have in effect*
8 *policies and practices, applicable to licens-*
9 *ing or regulating child care providers that*
10 *provide services for which assistance is*
11 *made available in accordance with this sub-*
12 *chapter and the facilities of those providers,*
13 *that—*

14 “(I) *ensure that individuals who*
15 *are hired as licensing inspectors in the*
16 *State are qualified to inspect those*
17 *child care providers and facilities and*
18 *have received training in related health*
19 *and safety requirements, child develop-*
20 *ment, child abuse prevention and de-*
21 *tection, program management, and rel-*
22 *evant law enforcement;*

23 “(II) *require licensing inspectors*
24 *(or qualified inspectors designated by*
25 *the lead agency) of those child care*

1 providers and facilities to perform in-
2 spections, with—

3 “(aa) not less than 1
4 prelicensure inspection for compli-
5 ance with health, safety, and fire
6 standards, of each such child care
7 provider and facility in the State;
8 and

9 “(bb) not less than annually,
10 an inspection (which shall be un-
11 announced) of each such child
12 care provider and facility in the
13 State for compliance with all
14 child care licensing standards,
15 which shall include an inspection
16 for compliance with health, safety,
17 and fire standards (although in-
18 spectors may or may not inspect
19 for compliance with all 3 stand-
20 ards at the same time); and

21 “(III) require the ratio of licens-
22 ing inspectors to such child care pro-
23 viders and facilities in the State to—

24 “(aa) be maintained at a
25 level sufficient to enable the State

1 to conduct inspections of such
2 child care providers and facilities
3 on a timely basis in accordance
4 with Federal and State law; and
5 “(bb) be consistent with re-
6 search findings and best practices.

7 “(ii) CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary
8 may offer guidance to a State, if requested
9 by the State, on a research-based minimum
10 standard regarding ratios described in
11 clause (i)(III) and provide technical assist-
12 ance to the State on meeting the minimum
13 standard within a reasonable time period,
14 but shall not prescribe a particular ratio.

15 “(L) COMPLIANCE WITH CHILD ABUSE RE-
16 PORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall in-
17 clude a certification that child care providers
18 within the State will comply with the child
19 abuse reporting requirements of section
20 106(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Child Abuse Prevention
21 and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.
22 5106a(b)(2)(B)(i)).

23 “(M) MEETING THE NEEDS OF CERTAIN
24 POPULATIONS.—The plan shall describe how the
25 State will develop and implement strategies

1 *(which may include the provision of compensa-*
 2 *tion at higher payment rates and bonuses to*
 3 *child care providers, the provision of direct con-*
 4 *tracts or grants to community-based organiza-*
 5 *tions, or other means determined by the State) to*
 6 *increase the supply and improve the quality of*
 7 *child care for—*

8 *“(i) children in underserved areas;*

9 *“(ii) infants and toddlers;*

10 *“(iii) children with disabilities, as de-*
 11 *finied by the State; and*

12 *“(iv) children who receive care during*
 13 *nontraditional hours.*

14 *“(N) PROTECTION FOR WORKING PAR-*
 15 *ENTS.—*

16 *“(i) MINIMUM PERIOD.—*

17 *“(I) 12-MONTH PERIOD.—The*
 18 *plan shall demonstrate that each child*
 19 *who receives assistance under this sub-*
 20 *chapter in the State will be considered*
 21 *to meet all eligibility requirements for*
 22 *such assistance and will receive such*
 23 *assistance, for not less than 12 months*
 24 *before the State redetermines the eligi-*
 25 *bility of the child under this sub-*

1 *chapter, regardless of a temporary*
2 *change in the ongoing status of the*
3 *child's parent as working or attending*
4 *a job training or educational program*
5 *or a change in family income for the*
6 *child's family, if that family income*
7 *does not exceed 85 percent of the State*
8 *median income for a family of the*
9 *same size.*

10 “(II) *FLUCTUATIONS IN EARN-*
11 *INGS.—The plan shall demonstrate how*
12 *the State's processes for initial deter-*
13 *mination and redetermination of such*
14 *eligibility take into account irregular*
15 *fluctuations in earnings.*

16 “(i) *REDETERMINATION PROCESS.—*
17 *The plan shall describe the procedures and*
18 *policies that are in place to ensure that*
19 *working parents (especially parents in fam-*
20 *ilies receiving assistance under the program*
21 *of block grants to States for temporary as-*
22 *sistance for needy families under part A of*
23 *title IV of the Social Security Act (42*
24 *U.S.C. 601 et seq.)) are not required to un-*
25 *duly disrupt their employment in order to*

1 *comply with the State's requirements for re-*
2 *determination of eligibility for assistance*
3 *provided in accordance with this sub-*
4 *chapter.*

5 “(iii) *PERIOD BEFORE TERMI-*
6 *NATION.—At the option of the State, the*
7 *plan shall demonstrate that the State will*
8 *not terminate assistance provided to carry*
9 *out this subchapter based on a factor con-*
10 *sisting of a parent's loss of work or ces-*
11 *sation of attendance at a job training or*
12 *educational program for which the family*
13 *was receiving the assistance, without con-*
14 *tinuing the assistance for a reasonable pe-*
15 *riod of time, of not less than 3 months, after*
16 *such loss or cessation in order for the parent*
17 *to engage in a job search and resume work,*
18 *or resume attendance at a job training or*
19 *educational program, as soon as possible.*

20 “(iv) *GRADUATED PHASEOUT OF*
21 *CARE.—The plan shall describe the policies*
22 *and procedures that are in place to allow*
23 *for provision of continued assistance to*
24 *carry out this subchapter, at the beginning*
25 *of a new eligibility period under clause*

1 *(i)(I), for children of parents who are work-*
2 *ing or attending a job training or edu-*
3 *cational program and whose family income*
4 *exceeds the State’s income limit to initially*
5 *qualify for such assistance, if the family in-*
6 *come for the family involved does not exceed*
7 *85 percent of the State median income for*
8 *a family of the same size.*

9 “(O) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PRO-
10 GRAMS.—

11 “(i) IN GENERAL.—*The plan shall de-*
12 *scribe how the State, in order to expand ac-*
13 *cessibility and continuity of quality early*
14 *childhood education and care, and assist*
15 *children enrolled in prekindergarten, Early*
16 *Head Start, or Head Start programs to re-*
17 *ceive full-day services, will coordinate the*
18 *services supported to carry out this sub-*
19 *chapter with—*

20 “(I) *programs carried out under*
21 *the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et*
22 *seq.), including the Early Head Start*
23 *programs carried out under section*
24 *645A of that Act (42 U.S.C. 9840a);*

1 “(II) programs carried out under
2 part A of title I, and part B of title
3 IV, of the Elementary and Secondary
4 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311
5 et seq., 7171 et seq.);

6 “(III) programs carried out under
7 section 619 and part C of the Individ-
8 uals with Disabilities Education Act
9 (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.);

10 “(IV) the maternal, infant, and
11 early childhood home visiting pro-
12 grams authorized under section 511 of
13 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
14 711), as added by section 2951 of the
15 Patient Protection and Affordable Care
16 Act (Public Law 111–148);

17 “(V) State, Indian tribe or tribal
18 organization, and locally funded early
19 childhood education and care pro-
20 grams;

21 “(VI) programs serving homeless
22 children and services of local edu-
23 cational agency liaisons for homeless
24 children and youths designated under
25 subsection (g)(1)(J)(ii) of section 722

1 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless As-
2 sistance Act (42 U.S.C.
3 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)); and

4 “(VII) other Federal programs
5 supporting early childhood education
6 and care activities, and, where appli-
7 cable, child care programs funded
8 through State veterans affairs offices.

9 “(ii) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—*Noth-*
10 *ing in clause (i) shall be construed to affect*
11 *the priority of children described in clause*
12 *(i) to receive full-day prekindergarten or*
13 *Head Start program services.*

14 “(P) *PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.*—*The*
15 *plan shall demonstrate how the State encourages*
16 *partnerships among State agencies, other public*
17 *agencies, Indian tribes and tribal organizations,*
18 *and private entities to leverage existing service*
19 *delivery systems (as of the date of the submission*
20 *of the application containing the plan) for early*
21 *childhood education and care and to increase the*
22 *supply and quality of child care services for chil-*
23 *dren who are less than 13 years of age, such as*
24 *by implementing voluntary shared services alli-*
25 *ance models.*

1 “(Q) *PRIORITY FOR LOW-INCOME POPU-*
2 *LATIONS.—The plan shall describe the process the*
3 *State proposes to use, with respect to investments*
4 *made to increase access to programs providing*
5 *high-quality early childhood education and care,*
6 *to give priority for those investments to children*
7 *of families in areas that have significant con-*
8 *centrations of poverty and unemployment and*
9 *that do not have such programs.*

10 “(R) *CONSULTATION.—The plan shall in-*
11 *clude a certification that the State has developed*
12 *the plan in consultation with the State Advisory*
13 *Council on Early Childhood Education and Care*
14 *designated or established pursuant to section*
15 *642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act (42*
16 *U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)).*

17 “(S) *PAYMENT PRACTICES.—The plan shall*
18 *include a certification that the payment prac-*
19 *tices of child care providers in the State that*
20 *serve children who receive assistance under this*
21 *subchapter reflect generally accepted payment*
22 *practices of child care providers in the State that*
23 *serve children who do not receive assistance*
24 *under this subchapter, so as to provide stability*
25 *of funding and encourage more child care pro-*

1 *viders to serve children who receive assistance*
2 *under this subchapter.*

3 “(T) *EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOP-*
4 *MENTAL GUIDELINES.—*

5 “(i) *IN GENERAL.—The plan shall in-*
6 *clude an assurance that the State will de-*
7 *velop or implement early learning and de-*
8 *velopmental guidelines that are appropriate*
9 *for children from birth through entry into*
10 *kindergarten, describing what such children*
11 *should know and be able to do, and covering*
12 *the essential domains of early childhood*
13 *education and care and early childhood de-*
14 *velopment for use statewide by child care*
15 *providers. Such child care providers shall—*

16 “(I) *be licensed or regulated under*
17 *State law; and*

18 “(II) *not be a relative of all chil-*
19 *dren for whom the provider provides*
20 *child care services.*

21 “(ii) *ALIGNMENT.—The guidelines*
22 *shall be research-based, developmentally ap-*
23 *propriate, and aligned with State standards*
24 *for education in kindergarten through grade*
25 *3.*

1 “(iii) *PROHIBITION ON USE OF*
2 *FUNDS.—The plan shall include an assur-*
3 *ance that funds received by the State to*
4 *carry out this subchapter will not be used*
5 *to develop or implement an assessment for*
6 *children that—*

7 “(I) *will be the sole basis for a*
8 *child care provider being determined to*
9 *be ineligible to participate in the pro-*
10 *gram carried out under this sub-*
11 *chapter;*

12 “(II) *will be used as the primary*
13 *or sole basis to provide a reward or*
14 *sanction for an individual provider;*

15 “(III) *will be used as the primary*
16 *or sole method for assessing program*
17 *effectiveness; or*

18 “(IV) *will be used to deny eligi-*
19 *bility to participate in the program*
20 *carried out under this subchapter.*

21 “(iv) *EXCEPTIONS.—Nothing in this*
22 *subchapter shall preclude the State from*
23 *using a single assessment (if appropriate)*
24 *for children for—*

1 “(I) supporting learning or im-
2 proving a classroom environment;

3 “(II) targeting professional devel-
4 opment to a provider;

5 “(III) determining the need for
6 health, mental health, disability, devel-
7 opmental delay, or family support
8 services;

9 “(IV) obtaining information for
10 the quality improvement process at the
11 State level; or

12 “(V) conducting a program eval-
13 uation for the purposes of providing
14 program improvement and parent in-
15 formation.

16 “(v) NO FEDERAL CONTROL.—Nothing
17 in this section shall be construed to author-
18 ize an officer or employee of the Federal
19 Government to—

20 “(I) mandate, direct, or control a
21 State’s early learning and develop-
22 mental guidelines, developed in accord-
23 ance with this section;

24 “(II) establish any criterion that
25 specifies, defines, or prescribes the

1 standards or measures that a State
2 uses to establish, implement, or im-
3 prove—

4 “(aa) early learning and de-
5 velopmental guidelines, or early
6 learning standards, assessments,
7 or accountability systems; or

8 “(bb) alignment of early
9 learning and developmental guide-
10 lines with State standards for
11 education in kindergarten through
12 grade 3; or

13 “(III) require a State to submit
14 such standards or measures for re-
15 view.”;

16 (3) in paragraph (3)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “as
18 required under” and inserting “in accordance
19 with”;

20 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

21 (i) by striking “The State” and insert-
22 ing the following:

23 “(i) *IN GENERAL.—The State*”;

24 (ii) by striking “and any other activ-
25 ity that the State deems appropriate to re-

1 *alize any of the goals specified in para-*
2 *graphs (2) through (5) of section 658A(b)”*
3 *and inserting “activities that improve ac-*
4 *cess to child care services, including use of*
5 *procedures to permit immediate enrollment*
6 *(after the initial eligibility determination*
7 *and after a child is determined to be eligi-*
8 *ble) of homeless children while required doc-*
9 *umentation is obtained, training and tech-*
10 *nical assistance on identifying and serving*
11 *homeless children and their families, and*
12 *specific outreach to homeless families, and*
13 *any other activity that the State determines*
14 *to be appropriate to meet the purposes of*
15 *this subchapter (which may include an ac-*
16 *tivity described in clause (i))”;* and

17 *(iii) by adding at the end the fol-*
18 *lowing:*

19 *“(i) CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND RE-*
20 *FERRAL SYSTEM.—*

21 *“(I) IN GENERAL.—A State may*
22 *use amounts described in clause (i) to*
23 *establish or support a system of local*
24 *or regional child care resource and re-*
25 *ferral organizations that is coordi-*

1 *nated, to the extent determined appro-*
2 *priate by the State, by a statewide*
3 *public or private nonprofit, commu-*
4 *nity-based or regionally based, lead*
5 *child care resource and referral organi-*
6 *zation.*

7 *“(II) LOCAL OR REGIONAL ORGA-*
8 *NIZATIONS.—The local or regional*
9 *child care resource and referral organi-*
10 *zations supported as described in sub-*
11 *clause (I) shall—*

12 *“(aa) provide parents in the*
13 *State with consumer education in-*
14 *formation referred to in para-*
15 *graph (2)(E) (except as otherwise*
16 *provided in that paragraph), con-*
17 *cerning the full range of child*
18 *care options, analyzed by pro-*
19 *vider, including child care pro-*
20 *vided during nontraditional hours*
21 *and through emergency child care*
22 *centers, in their political subdivi-*
23 *sions or regions;*

24 *“(bb) to the extent prac-*
25 *ticable, work directly with fami-*

1 *lies who receive assistance under*
2 *this subchapter to offer the fami-*
3 *lies support and assistance, using*
4 *information described in item*
5 *(aa), to make an informed deci-*
6 *sion about which child care pro-*
7 *viders they will use, in an effort*
8 *to ensure that the families are en-*
9 *rolling their children in high-*
10 *quality care;*

11 *“(cc) collect and analyze*
12 *data on the coordination of serv-*
13 *ices and supports, including serv-*
14 *ices under section 619 and part C*
15 *of the Individuals with Disabil-*
16 *ities Education Act (20 U.S.C.*
17 *1419, 1431 et seq.), for children*
18 *with disabilities (as defined in*
19 *section 602 of such Act (20 U.S.C.*
20 *1401));*

21 *“(dd) collect and analyze*
22 *data on the supply of and demand*
23 *for child care in political subdivi-*
24 *sions or regions within the State*

1 and submit such data and anal-
2 ysis to the State;

3 “(ee) work to establish part-
4 nerships with public agencies and
5 private entities to increase the
6 supply and quality of child care
7 services in the State; and

8 “(ff) as appropriate, coordi-
9 nate their activities with the ac-
10 tivities of the State lead agency
11 and local agencies that administer
12 funds made available in accord-
13 ance with this subchapter.”;

14 (C) in subparagraph (D)—

15 (i) by striking “1997 through 2002”
16 and inserting “2015 through 2020”; and

17 (ii) by striking “families described in
18 paragraph (2)(H)” and inserting “families
19 with children described in clause (i), (ii),
20 (iii), or (iv) of paragraph (2)(M)”;

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

22 “(E) *DIRECT SERVICES.*—From amounts
23 provided to a State for a fiscal year to carry out
24 this subchapter, the State shall—

1 “(i) reserve the minimum amount re-
 2 quired to be reserved under section 658G,
 3 and the funds for costs described in sub-
 4 paragraph (C); and

5 “(ii) from the remainder, use not less
 6 than 70 percent to fund direct services (pro-
 7 vided by the State) in accordance with
 8 paragraph (2)(A).”;

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

11 “(4) PAYMENT RATES.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The State plan shall
 13 certify that payment rates for the provision of
 14 child care services for which assistance is pro-
 15 vided in accordance with this subchapter are suf-
 16 ficient to ensure equal access for eligible children
 17 to child care services that are comparable to
 18 child care services in the State or substate area
 19 involved that are provided to children whose par-
 20 ents are not eligible to receive assistance under
 21 this subchapter or to receive child care assistance
 22 under any other Federal or State program and
 23 shall provide a summary of the facts relied on by
 24 the State to determine that such rates are suffi-
 25 cient to ensure such access.

1 “(B) *SURVEY.*—*The State plan shall—*
2 “*(i) demonstrate that the State has,*
3 *after consulting with the State Advisory*
4 *Council on Early Childhood Education and*
5 *Care designated or established in section*
6 *642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act (42*
7 *U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)), local child care*
8 *program administrators, local child care re-*
9 *source and referral agencies, and other ap-*
10 *propriate entities, developed and conducted*
11 *(not earlier than 2 years before the date of*
12 *the submission of the application con-*
13 *taining the State plan) a statistically valid*
14 *and reliable survey of the market rates for*
15 *child care services in the State (that reflects*
16 *variations in the cost of child care services*
17 *by geographic area, type of provider, and*
18 *age of child);*
19 “*(ii) demonstrate that the State pre-*
20 *pared a detailed report containing the re-*
21 *sults of the State market rates survey con-*
22 *ducted pursuant to clause (i), and made the*
23 *results of the survey widely available (not*
24 *later than 30 days after the completion of*

1 *such survey) through periodic means, in-*
2 *cluding posting the results on the Internet;*

3 “(iii) describe how the State will set
4 payment rates for child care services, for
5 which assistance is provided in accordance
6 with this subchapter—

7 “(I) in accordance with the results
8 of the market rates survey conducted
9 pursuant to clause (i);

10 “(II) taking into consideration the
11 cost of providing higher quality child
12 care services than were provided under
13 this subchapter before the date of enact-
14 ment of the Child Care and Develop-
15 ment Block Grant Act of 2014; and

16 “(III) without, to the extent prac-
17 ticable, reducing the number of fami-
18 lies in the State receiving such assist-
19 ance to carry out this subchapter, rel-
20 ative to the number of such families on
21 the date of enactment of that Act; and

22 “(iv) describe how the State will pro-
23 vide for timely payment for child care serv-
24 ices provided in accordance with this sub-
25 chapter.

1 “(C) CONSTRUCTION.—

2 “*(i) NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—*
3 *Nothing in this paragraph shall be con-*
4 *strued to create a private right of action.*

5 “*(ii) NO PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN*
6 *DIFFERENT RATES.—Nothing in this sub-*
7 *chapter shall be construed to prevent a*
8 *State from differentiating the payment*
9 *rates described in subparagraph (B)(iii) on*
10 *the basis of such factors as—*

11 “*(I) geographic location of child*
12 *care providers (such as location in an*
13 *urban or rural area);*

14 “*(II) the age or particular needs*
15 *of children (such as the needs of chil-*
16 *dren with disabilities and children*
17 *served by child protective services);*

18 “*(III) whether the providers pro-*
19 *vide child care during weekend and*
20 *other nontraditional hours; or*

21 “*(IV) the State’s determination*
22 *that such differentiated payment rates*
23 *are needed to enable a parent to choose*
24 *child care that is of high quality.”; and*

1 *and access to, high-quality child care, provided in ac-*
2 *cordance with this subchapter.*

3 “(2) *AMOUNT OF RESERVATIONS.*—*Such State*
4 *shall reserve and use—*

5 “(A) *to carry out the activities described in*
6 *paragraph (1), not less than—*

7 “(i) *6 percent of the funds described in*
8 *paragraph (1), for the first and second full*
9 *fiscal years after the date of enactment of*
10 *the Child Care and Development Block*
11 *Grant Act of 2014;*

12 “(ii) *8 percent of such funds, for the*
13 *third and fourth full fiscal years after the*
14 *date of enactment; and*

15 “(iii) *10 percent of such funds, for the*
16 *fifth full fiscal year after the date of enact-*
17 *ment and each succeeding fiscal year; and*

18 “(B) *in addition to the funds reserved*
19 *under subparagraph (A), 3 percent of the funds*
20 *described in paragraph (1), for the first full fis-*
21 *cal year after the date of enactment and each*
22 *succeeding fiscal year, to carry out the activities*
23 *described in paragraph (1) and subsection (b)(4),*
24 *as such activities relate to the quality of care for*
25 *infants and toddlers.*

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

4 “(1) *Supporting the training, professional devel-*
5 *opment, and professional advancement of the child*
6 *care workforce through activities such as—*

7 “(A) *offering child care providers training*
8 *and professional development that is intentional*
9 *and sequential and leads to a higher level of skill*
10 *or certification;*

11 “(B) *establishing or supporting programs*
12 *designed to increase the retention and improve*
13 *the competencies of child care providers, includ-*
14 *ing wage incentive programs and initiatives that*
15 *establish tiered payment rates for providers that*
16 *meet or exceed child care services guidelines, as*
17 *defined by the State;*

18 “(C) *offering training, professional develop-*
19 *ment, and educational opportunities for child*
20 *care providers that relate to the use of develop-*
21 *mentally appropriate and age-appropriate cur-*
22 *ricula, and early childhood teaching strategies,*
23 *that are scientifically based and aligned with the*
24 *social, emotional, physical, and cognitive devel-*
25 *opment of children, including offering specialized*

1 *training for child care providers who care for in-*
2 *fant and toddlers, children who are English*
3 *learners, and children with disabilities (as de-*
4 *defined in section 602 of the Individuals with Dis-*
5 *abilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401));*

6 “(D) *providing training concerning the*
7 *State early learning and developmental guide-*
8 *lines, where applicable, including training con-*
9 *cerning early mathematics and early language*
10 *and literacy development and effective instruc-*
11 *tional practices to support mathematics and lan-*
12 *guage and literacy development in young chil-*
13 *dren;*

14 “(E) *incorporating effective use of data to*
15 *guide instruction and program improvement;*

16 “(F) *including effective behavior manage-*
17 *ment strategies and training, including positive*
18 *behavioral interventions and supports, that pro-*
19 *mote positive social and emotional development*
20 *and reduce challenge behaviors;*

21 “(G) *at the option of the State, incor-*
22 *porating feedback from experts at the State’s in-*
23 *stitutions of higher education, as defined in sec-*
24 *tion 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965*
25 *(20 U.S.C. 1002), and other early childhood de-*

1 *velopment experts and early childhood education*
2 *and care experts;*

3 “(H) *providing training corresponding to*
4 *the nutritional and physical activity needs of*
5 *children to promote healthy development;*

6 “(I) *providing training or professional de-*
7 *velopment for child care providers to serve and*
8 *support children with disabilities;*

9 “(J) *providing training and outreach on*
10 *engaging parents and families in culturally and*
11 *linguistically appropriate ways to expand their*
12 *knowledge, skills, and capacity to become mean-*
13 *ingful partners in supporting their children’s*
14 *learning and development; and*

15 “(K) *providing training or professional de-*
16 *velopment for child care providers regarding the*
17 *early neurological development of children.*

18 “(2) *Supporting the use of the early learning*
19 *and developmental guidelines described in section*
20 *658E(c)(2)(T) by—*

21 “(A) *developing and implementing the*
22 *State’s early learning and developmental guide-*
23 *lines; and*

24 “(B) *providing technical assistance to en-*
25 *hance early learning for preschool and school-*

1 *aged children in order to promote language and*
2 *literacy skills, foster school readiness, and sup-*
3 *port later school success.*

4 “(3) *Developing and implementing a tiered qual-*
5 *ity rating system for child care providers, which*
6 *shall—*

7 “(A) *support and assess the quality of child*
8 *care providers in the State;*

9 “(B) *build on licensing standards and other*
10 *State regulatory standards for such providers;*

11 “(C) *be designed to improve the quality of*
12 *different types of child care providers;*

13 “(D) *describe the quality of early learning*
14 *facilities;*

15 “(E) *build the capacity of State early child-*
16 *hood education and care programs and commu-*
17 *nities to promote parents’ and families’ under-*
18 *standing of the State’s early childhood education*
19 *and care system and the ratings of the programs*
20 *in which the child is enrolled; and*

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

1 “(4) *Improving the supply and quality of child*
2 *care programs and services for infants and toddlers*
3 *through activities, which may include—*

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

15 “(B) *establishing or expanding the oper-*
16 *ation of community or neighborhood-based fam-*
17 *ily child care networks;*

18 “(C) *supporting statewide networks of in-*
19 *fant and toddler child care specialists, including*
20 *specialists who have knowledge regarding infant*
21 *and toddler development and curriculum and*
22 *program implementation as well as the ability to*
23 *coordinate services with early intervention spe-*
24 *cialists who provide services for infants and tod-*
25 *dlers with disabilities under part C of the Indi-*

1 *viduals with Disabilities Education Act (20*
2 *U.S.C. 1431 et seq.);*

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

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

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

23 “(G) *carrying out other activities deter-*
24 *mined by the State to improve the quality of in-*
25 *fant and toddler care provided in the State, and*

1 *for which there is evidence that the activities will*
2 *lead to improved infant and toddler health and*
3 *safety, infant and toddler development, or infant*
4 *and toddler well-being, including providing*
5 *training (including training in safe sleep prac-*
6 *tices, first aid, and cardiopulmonary resuscita-*
7 *tion).*

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

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

13 “(7) *Facilitating compliance with State require-*
14 *ments for inspection, monitoring, training, and*
15 *health and safety, and with State licensing standards.*

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

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

1 “(10) *Supporting State or local efforts to develop*
2 *or adopt high-quality program standards relating to*
3 *health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity,*
4 *and physical development and providing resources to*
5 *enable eligible child care providers to meet, exceed, or*
6 *sustain success in meeting or exceeding, such stand-*
7 *ards.*

8 “(11) *Carrying out other activities determined*
9 *by the State to improve the quality of child care serv-*
10 *ices provided in the State, and for which measure-*
11 *ment of outcomes relating to improved provider pre-*
12 *paredness, child safety, child well-being, or school*
13 *readiness is possible.*

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

22 “(d) *REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Each State receiv-*
23 *ing funds under this subchapter shall prepare and submit*
24 *an annual report to the Secretary, which shall include in-*
25 *formation about—*

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

3 “(2) the activities carried out under this section;
4 and

5 “(3) the measures that the State will use to
6 evaluate the State’s progress in improving the quality
7 of child care programs and services in the State.

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

13 “(f) *CONSTRUCTION.*—Nothing in this section shall be
14 construed as providing the Secretary the authority to regu-
15 late, direct, or dictate State child care quality activities or
16 progress in implementing those activities.”.

17 **SEC. 7. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

18 *The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of*
19 *1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) is amended by inserting after*
20 *section 658G the following:*

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

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

24 “(1) requirements, policies, and procedures to re-
25 quire and conduct criminal background checks for

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

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

8 *“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—A criminal background check*
9 *for a child care staff member under subsection (a) shall in-*
10 *clude—*

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

16 *“(2) a search of State-based child abuse and ne-*
17 *glect registries and databases in the State where the*
18 *child care staff member resides and each State where*
19 *such staff member resided during the preceding 10*
20 *years;*

21 *“(3) a search of the National Crime Information*
22 *Center;*

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

1 “(5) a search of the National Sex Offender Reg-
2 istry established under the Adam Walsh Child Protec-
3 tion and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16901 et seq.).

4 “(c) PROHIBITIONS.—

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

11 “(A) refuses to consent to the criminal back-
12 ground check described in subsection (b);

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

16 “(C) is registered, or is required to be reg-
17 istered, on a State sex offender registry or reposi-
18 tory or the National Sex Offender Registry estab-
19 lished under the Adam Walsh Child Protection
20 and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16901 et
21 seq.); or

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

24 “(i) murder, as described in section
25 1111 of title 18, United States Code;

1 “(ii) child abuse or neglect;

2 “(iii) a crime against children, includ-
3 ing child pornography;

4 “(iv) spousal abuse;

5 “(v) a crime involving rape or sexual
6 assault;

7 “(vi) kidnaping;

8 “(vii) arson;

9 “(viii) physical assault or battery; or

10 “(ix) subject to subsection (e)(4), a
11 drug-related offense committed during the
12 preceding 5 years.

13 “(2) CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.—A child care pro-
14 vider described in paragraph (1) shall be ineligible
15 for assistance provided in accordance with this sub-
16 chapter if the provider employs a staff member who
17 is ineligible for employment under paragraph (1).

18 “(d) SUBMISSION OF REQUESTS FOR BACKGROUND
19 CHECKS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A child care provider covered
21 by subsection (c) shall submit a request, to the appro-
22 priate State agency designated by a State, for a
23 criminal background check described in subsection (b),
24 for each child care staff member (including prospec-
25 tive child care staff members) of the provider.

1 “(2) *STAFF MEMBERS.*—Subject to paragraph
2 (4), in the case of an individual who became a child
3 care staff member before the date of enactment of the
4 *Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of*
5 *2014, the provider shall submit such a request—*

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

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

11 “(3) *PROSPECTIVE STAFF MEMBERS.*—Subject to
12 paragraph (4), in the case of an individual who is a
13 prospective child care staff member on or after that
14 date of enactment, the provider shall submit such a
15 request—

16 “(A) prior to the date the individual be-
17 comes a child care staff member of the provider;
18 and

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

22 “(4) *BACKGROUND CHECK FOR ANOTHER CHILD*
23 *CARE PROVIDER.*—A child care provider shall not be
24 required to submit a request under paragraph (2) or
25 (3) for a child care staff member if—

1 “(A) the staff member received a background
2 check described in subsection (b)—

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

6 “(ii) while employed by or seeking em-
7 ployment by another child care provider
8 within the State;

9 “(B) the State provided to the first provider
10 a qualifying background check result, consistent
11 with this subchapter, for the staff member; and

12 “(C) the staff member is employed by a
13 child care provider within the State, or has been
14 separated from employment from a child care
15 provider within the State for a period of not
16 more than 180 consecutive days.

17 “(e) *BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS AND APPEALS.*—

18 “(1) *BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS.*—The State
19 shall carry out the request of a child care provider for
20 a criminal background check as expeditiously as pos-
21 sible, but in not to exceed 45 days after the date on
22 which such request was submitted, and shall provide
23 the results of the criminal background check to such
24 provider and to the current or prospective staff mem-
25 ber.

1 “(2) *PRIVACY.*—

2 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The State shall provide*
3 *the results of the criminal background check to*
4 *the provider in a statement that indicates wheth-*
5 *er a child care staff member (including a pro-*
6 *spective child care staff member) is eligible or in-*
7 *eligible for employment described in subsection*
8 *(c), without revealing any disqualifying crime or*
9 *other related information regarding the indi-*
10 *vidual.*

11 “(B) *INELIGIBLE STAFF MEMBER.*—*If the*
12 *child care staff member is ineligible for such em-*
13 *ployment due to the background check, the State*
14 *will, when providing the results of the back-*
15 *ground check, include information related to*
16 *each disqualifying crime, in a report to the staff*
17 *member or prospective staff member.*

18 “(C) *PUBLIC RELEASE OF RESULTS.*—*No*
19 *State shall publicly release or share the results of*
20 *individual background checks, however, such re-*
21 *sults of background checks may be included in*
22 *the development or dissemination of local or*
23 *statewide data related to background checks, if*
24 *such results are not individually identifiable.*

25 “(3) *APPEALS.*—

1 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The State shall provide*
2 *for a process by which a child care staff member*
3 *(including a prospective child care staff member)*
4 *may appeal the results of a criminal background*
5 *check conducted under this section to challenge*
6 *the accuracy or completeness of the information*
7 *contained in such member’s criminal background*
8 *report.*

9 “(B) *APPEALS PROCESS.*—*The State shall*
10 *ensure that—*

11 “(i) *each child care staff member shall*
12 *be given notice of the opportunity to appeal;*

13 “(ii) *a child care staff member will re-*
14 *ceive instructions about how to complete the*
15 *appeals process if the child care staff mem-*
16 *ber wishes to challenge the accuracy or com-*
17 *pleteness of the information contained in*
18 *such member’s criminal background report;*
19 *and*

20 “(iii) *the appeals process is completed*
21 *in a timely manner for each child care staff*
22 *member.*

23 “(4) *REVIEW.*—*The State may allow for a re-*
24 *view process through which the State may determine*
25 *that a child care staff member (including a prospec-*

1 *tive child care staff member) disqualified for a crime*
2 *specified in subsection (c)(1)(D)(ix) is eligible for em-*
3 *ployment described in subsection (c)(1), notwith-*
4 *standing subsection (c). The review process shall be*
5 *consistent with title VII of the Civil Rights Act of*
6 *1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.).*

7 “(5) *NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.*—*Nothing in*
8 *this section shall be construed to create a private*
9 *right of action if the provider is in compliance with*
10 *State regulations and requirements.*

11 “(f) *FEEES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.*—*Fees that a*
12 *State may charge for the costs of processing applications*
13 *and administering a criminal background check as required*
14 *by this section shall not exceed the actual costs to the State*
15 *for the processing and administration.*

16 “(g) *CONSTRUCTION.*—

17 “(1) *DISQUALIFICATION FOR OTHER CRIMES.*—
18 *Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent*
19 *a State from disqualifying individuals as child care*
20 *staff members based on their conviction for crimes not*
21 *specifically listed in this section that bear upon the*
22 *fitness of an individual to provide care for and have*
23 *responsibility for the safety and well-being of chil-*
24 *dren.*

1 “(2) *RIGHTS AND REMEDIES.*—*Nothing in this*
2 *section shall be construed to alter or otherwise affect*
3 *the rights and remedies provided for child care staff*
4 *members residing in a State that disqualifies individ-*
5 *uals as child care staff members for crimes not spe-*
6 *cifically provided for under this section.*

7 “(h) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this section—*

8 “(1) *the term ‘child care provider’ means a cen-*
9 *ter-based child care provider, a family child care pro-*
10 *vider, or another provider of child care services for*
11 *compensation and on a regular basis that—*

12 “(A) *is not an individual who is related to*
13 *all children for whom child care services are pro-*
14 *vided; and*

15 “(B) *is licensed, regulated, or registered*
16 *under State law or receives assistance provided*
17 *in accordance with this subchapter; and*

18 “(2) *the term ‘child care staff member’ means an*
19 *individual (other than an individual who is related*
20 *to all children for whom child care services are pro-*
21 *vided)—*

22 “(A) *who is employed by a child care pro-*
23 *vider for compensation;*

24 “(B) *whose activities involve the care or su-*
25 *pervision of children for a child care provider or*

1 *unsupervised access to children who are cared for*
2 *or supervised by a child care provider; or*

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

4 *“(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—*

5 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives funds*
6 *under this subchapter shall meet the requirements of*
7 *this section for the provision of criminal background*
8 *checks for child care staff members described in sub-*
9 *section (d)(1) not later than the last day of the second*
10 *full fiscal year after the date of enactment of the*
11 *Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of*
12 *2014.*

13 *“(2) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may grant a*
14 *State an extension of time, of not more than 1 fiscal*
15 *year, to meet the requirements of this section if the*
16 *State demonstrates a good faith effort to comply with*
17 *the requirements of this section.*

18 *“(3) PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—Except as*
19 *provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), for any fiscal*
20 *year that a State fails to comply substantially with*
21 *the requirements of this section, the Secretary shall*
22 *withhold 5 percent of the funds that would otherwise*
23 *be allocated to that State in accordance with this sub-*
24 *chapter for the following fiscal year.”.*

1 **SEC. 8. REPORTS AND INFORMATION.**

2 (a) *ADMINISTRATION.*—Section 658I of the Child Care
3 and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
4 9858g) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) in paragraph (2)—

7 (i) by inserting a comma after “pub-
8 lish”; and

9 (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

10 (B) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting
11 the following:

12 “(3) provide technical assistance to States
13 (which may include providing assistance on a reim-
14 bursable basis), consistent with (as appropriate) sci-
15 entifically valid research, to carry out this sub-
16 chapter; and”;

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

18 “(4) disseminate, for voluntary informational
19 purposes, information on practices that scientifically
20 valid research indicates are most successful in im-
21 proving the quality of programs that receive assist-
22 ance under this subchapter.”;

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

24 “(c) *PROHIBITION.*—Nothing in this subchapter shall
25 be construed as providing the Secretary the authority to
26 permit States to alter the eligibility requirements for eligi-

1 ble children, including work requirements that apply to the
2 parents of eligible children.”

3 (b) *REQUESTS FOR RELIEF.*—Section 658I of the
4 *Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, as*
5 *amended by subsection (a), is further amended by adding*
6 *at the end the following:*

7 “(d) *REQUEST FOR RELIEF.*—

8 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The State may submit to the*
9 *Secretary a request for relief from any provision of*
10 *Federal law (including a regulation, policy, or proce-*
11 *dure) affecting the delivery of child care services with*
12 *Federal funds, other than this subchapter, that con-*
13 *flicts with a requirement of this subchapter.*

14 “(2) *CONTENTS.*—*Such request shall—*

15 “(A) *detail the provision of Federal law*
16 *that conflicts with that requirement;*

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

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

1 “(3) *CONSULTATION.*—*The Secretary shall con-*
2 *sult with the State submitting the request and the*
3 *head of each Federal agency (other than the Sec-*
4 *retary) with responsibility for administering the Fed-*
5 *eral law detailed in the State’s request. The con-*
6 *sulting parties shall jointly identify—*

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

11 “(B) *any corresponding waiver.*

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

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

1 *disapproved, the Secretary shall inform the State, in*
 2 *writing, of the reasons for the disapproval and give*
 3 *the State the opportunity to amend the request.*

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

8 *“(7) TERMINATION.—The Secretary shall termi-*
 9 *nate approval of a request for relief authorized under*
 10 *this subsection if the Secretary determines, after no-*
 11 *tice and opportunity for a hearing, that the perform-*
 12 *ance of a State granted relief under this subsection*
 13 *has been inadequate, or if such relief is no longer nec-*
 14 *essary to achieve its original purposes.”.*

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

18 *(1) in paragraph (1)(B)—*

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

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

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

1 “(xi) whether the children receiving as-
2 sistance under this subchapter are homeless
3 children;”; and

4 (2) in paragraph (2)—

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

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

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

13 (1) by striking the section heading and inserting
14 the following:

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

16 (2) by striking “Not later” and inserting the fol-
17 lowing:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 “(A) *develop and disseminate publicly*
9 *available child care consumer education informa-*
10 *tion for parents and help parents access safe, af-*
11 *fordable, and quality child care in their commu-*
12 *nity; and*

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

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

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

1 *subparagraph (B) within a specified search ra-*
2 *dius.*

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

6 “(i) *a localized list of all State licensed*
7 *child care providers;*

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

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

19 “(iv) *referrals to local resource and re-*
20 *ferral organizations from which consumers*
21 *can find more information about child care*
22 *providers, and a recommendation that con-*
23 *sumers consult with the organizations when*
24 *selecting a child care provider; and*

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

4 “(C) *NATIONWIDE CAPACITY.—The Web site*
5 *and hotline shall have the capacity to help fami-*
6 *lies in every State and community in the Na-*
7 *tion.*

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

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

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

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

1 2014) not publicly available, or is not required by
2 this subchapter.”.

3 **SEC. 9. RESERVATION FOR TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB**
4 **SITE; PAYMENTS TO BENEFIT INDIAN CHIL-**
5 **DREN.**

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

8 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
9 following:

10 “(3) NATIONAL TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB
11 SITE.—The Secretary shall reserve not less than
12 \$1,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this
13 subchapter for each fiscal year for the operation of a
14 national toll-free hotline and Web site, under section
15 658L(b).”; and

16 (2) in subsection (c)(2), by adding at the end the
17 following:

18 “(D) LICENSING AND STANDARDS.—In lieu
19 of any licensing and regulatory requirements ap-
20 plicable under State or local law, the Secretary,
21 in consultation with Indian tribes and tribal or-
22 ganizations, shall develop minimum child care
23 standards that shall be applicable to Indian
24 tribes and tribal organizations receiving assist-
25 ance under this subchapter. Such standards shall

1 *appropriately reflect Indian tribe and tribal or-*
 2 *ganization needs and available resources, and*
 3 *shall include standards requiring a publicly*
 4 *available application, health and safety stand-*
 5 *ards, and standards requiring a reservation of*
 6 *funds for activities to improve the quality of*
 7 *child care provided to Indian children.”.*

8 **SEC. 10. DEFINITIONS.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6 “(B) whose family income does not exceed
7 85 percent of the State median income for a
8 family of the same size; and

9 “(C) who—

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

13 “(ii) is receiving, or needs to receive,
14 protective services and resides with a parent
15 or parents not described in clause (i).”;

16 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (9)
17 as paragraphs (6) through (10), respectively;

18 (3) by inserting after paragraph (4), the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(5) *ENGLISH LEARNER*.—The term ‘English
21 learner’ means an individual who is limited English
22 proficient, as defined in section 9101 of the *Elemen-
23 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (20
24 *U.S.C. 7801*) or section 637 of the *Head Start Act* (42
25 *U.S.C. 9832*).”;

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

3 (A) *in clause (i), by striking “section*
4 *658E(c)(2)(E)” and inserting “section*
5 *658E(c)(2)(F)”;* *and*

6 (B) *in clause (ii), by striking “section*
7 *658E(c)(2)(F)” and inserting “section*
8 *658E(c)(2)(I)”;*

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

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

16 (7) *by redesignating paragraphs (11) through*
17 *(14) as paragraphs (12) through (15), respectively;*
18 *and*

19 (8) *by inserting after paragraph (10), as redesi-*
20 *gnated by paragraph (2), the following:*

21 “(11) *SCIENTIFICALLY VALID RESEARCH.—The*
22 *term ‘scientifically valid research’ includes applied*
23 *research, basic research, and field-initiated research,*
24 *for which the rationale, design, and interpretation are*

1 *soundly developed in accordance with principles of*
2 *scientific research.”.*

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

4 *(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United*
5 *States shall conduct studies to determine, for each State,*
6 *the number of families that—*

7 *(1) are eligible to receive assistance under the*
8 *Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990*
9 *(42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.);*

10 *(2) have applied for the assistance; and*

11 *(3) have been placed on a waiting list for the as-*
12 *sistance.*

13 *(b) REPORT.—The Comptroller General shall prepare*
14 *a report containing the results of each study and shall sub-*
15 *mit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress—*

16 *(1) not later than 2 years after the date of enact-*
17 *ment of this Act; and*

18 *(2) every 2 years thereafter.*

19 *(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “State” has*
20 *the meaning given the term in section 658P of the Child*
21 *Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.*
22 *9858n).*

1 **SEC. 12. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

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

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A BILL

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

FEBRUARY 25, 2014

Reported with an amendment