Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. He asks unanimous consent that the unanimous consent request been approved?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The unanimous consent request has been approved.

All time has been yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Caroline Diane Krass, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency?

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WAREN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 95, nays 4, as follows:

(Rollcall Vote No. 76 Ex.)

YEAS—95

Alexander
Ayotte
Baldwin
Barrasso
Begich
Bennet
Blumenthal
Blunt
Booher
Boozman
Boxer
Brown
Burr
Casey
Chambliss
Collins
Coons
Corker
Cox
C.C.
Cruz
Heller

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ACT OF 2014—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

The Senator from Louisiana.

AMENDMENT NO. 2845, AS MODIFIED

Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I call up my amendment No. 2845 and ask that it be modified with the changes at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendment is set aside.

The clerk will report the amendment, as modified.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) proposes an amendment numbered 2845, as modified.

Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require the Secretary (acting through the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families) to prepare an annual report that contains a determination about whether States have complied with a priority requirement, and to require the Secretary to withhold funds from States that fail to comply with such priority requirement)

On page 99, strike line 19 and insert the following:

(‘‘(II) REPORT BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.—

‘‘(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30 of the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014, and September 30 of each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary (acting through the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services) shall prepare a report that contains a determination about whether States have complied with a priority requirement, and to require the Secretary to withhold funds from States that fail to comply with such priority requirement.’’)

The amendment adds a new Senate amendment, but I first want to thank the chairman and ranking member of the committee for working through this amendment and agreeing to what I think will be a quick consideration and adoption by voice vote.

This amendment is very simple, straightforward, but important. Present law with regard to child care and development block grants—present Federal law—says that States should and must prioritize for two categories of children: low-income kids and children with special needs. I think we all agree with that prioritization. The problem is, as recent reports have indicated, about half of all the States—23 to be exact—do not do that. They just basically ignore that Federal law.

This simple, straightforward amendment would bring accountability to the system and make sure all States follow present Federal law and give that appropriate priority treatment to children, low-income kids and children with special needs as well as low-income kids. It would do this by saying that there is going to be some accountability; that the Federal Department involved in the program already will annually make sure States follow this aspect of present law and that if a State is not doing that, it gets 6 months to cure the problem, but if it doesn’t do that in the 6 months, then that State would feel the pinch by having 5 percent of its block grant funds withheld until it corrects the situation.

The amendment also gives the Secretary waiver authority for extraordinary circumstances, such as natural disasters and other emergencies.

Again, I appreciate the chairman and ranking member working out this provision. I do think it is important that all States follow Federal law, and we give these children—special needs children, low-income children—the priority treatment they deserve.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, the amendment has the admirable goal of prioritizing funds to low-income families who have children with disabilities. I applaud Senator VITTER’s effort and hope the committee and the Appropriations Committee will recognize the significant reinforcement of what has been the law since 1996—that States must prioritize children from very low-income families.
who have children with disabilities. This amendment reinforces that by saying the Department of Health and Human Services must meet that promise. There is a provision in there that gives them adequate time to make sure they are doing it properly.

Again, I thank the Senator from Louisiana for working with us. As I said when this amendment first came up, yes, as someone who has worked on disability issues for most of my adult life, I agreed with exactly what he wanted to do. There were just some language problems. That is the way we get legislation done around here—we work things out and we find the middle ground on which everybody can agree. I thank the Senator from Louisiana for his willingness to work this out. We support the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BURR. Madam President, I also want to thank my colleague from Louisiana for his work on behalf of the committee for working out this amendment.

Madam President, I know of no further debate on this amendment, and I would ask us to proceed to a vote on the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the amendment, as modified.

The amendment (No. 2845), as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. HARKIN. I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

SECTION 8(b)

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I want to first and foremost express my thanks to the chairman, and his colleagues, for this bipartisan bill—a long overdue effort that clearly is the result of a painstaking, patient effort by the committee to reauthorize the Child Care and Development Block Grant.

I wanted to discuss very quickly one provision, section 8(b), that I feel needs additional clarification.

Given that the overall priority of all of us to increase quality while ensuring that States can effectively navigate the federal standards—while maintaining their authority to set their own standards—would the Senator agree that this law is not to rewrite other existing Federal laws or evade requirements of other Federal laws that might diminish services for children?

Mr. HARKIN. Yes, I would agree. As our committee report explains, it is intended that “States exercise this provision in an attempt to maximize the effective administration and delivery of Federally subsidized childcare, and not for purposes that have a minor effect on children.

I firmly believe, and I know my colleagues will agree, that this provision is not intended, nor should it be interpreted, as one that can be used to rewrite any other current laws, evade central provisions of other current laws, or undermine the goals and purposes of other laws. Certainly, it is not our intent to allow States to change, undermine or threaten in any way current laws.

Mr. MIKULSKI. I thank the chairman.

MR. BURR. Madam President, I have a question for my friend from Iowa, the chairman of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, in May 2013 issued a notice of proposed rulemaking to the Child Care and Development Fund, CCDF, that would make several health and safety, quality, background checks, and other related changes. That NPRM is currently in the comment period and has yet to be finalized.

Am I correct in my understanding that HHS has shared with you, as well as with me, their interpretation that, should S. 1086, the Child Care Development Block Grant Reauthorization which we are considering in the Senate today along with any subsequent changes through the legislative process, become law, the proposed rulemaking for the CCDF would be overriden by S. 1086?

Mr. HARKIN. The Senator from North Carolina is correct that HHS has shared with me that S. 1086, and any further congressional changes made to S. 1086, would override the May 2013 notice of proposed rulemaking to the CCDF.

Mr. BURR. I thank the distinguished chairman for this important clarification and for his hard work in developing this important legislation.

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, with 20 kids and grandkids, I understand the importance and value of quality, affordable childcare. I applaud those individuals in the states that are making improvements in education and training in order to improve their situations, and the Child Care and Development Block Grant Program assists them in that pursuit.

The Child Care and Development Block Grant Program has been in place since 1996, and as a part of welfare reform in 1996, three other childcare initiatives were consolidated into this program, which provides formula-based block grant funding to States to support the working poor. This is a very important program that continues to con-
Mr. REED. Madam President, I am pleased this bill takes a significant step toward providing more information to parents about their children's care and encourages States to follow North Carolina's lead and increase the quality of childcare centers.

Currently, States must spend at least 4 percent of their Federal childcare funds on improving the quality of childcare—including providing professional development for childcare providers, licensing and monitoring childcare facilities, and providing consumer education, so that parents have the information they need to make informed decisions.

This reauthorization raises the minimum amount to be spent on quality improvements to 10 percent by 2020. As a result, we can help to ensure that children in all 50 States are receiving quality care. I am also particularly pleased to support this bill because it includes key provisions of the Child Care Infant Mortality Prevention Act, which I introduced with Senators DIANE FEINSTEIN and SUSAN COLLINS in September.

These provisions will allow for the use of Federal funds to train childcare providers in sleep practices, first aid, and CPR for infants. According to the Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics, safe sleep practices can reduce by one-half the annual number of cases of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome—a tragedy that touches approximately 100 families in North Carolina each year.

Roughly 20 percent of all cases of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome occur in child care settings, and—with this provision—we can provide child care providers with the resources they need to prevent these unnecessary tragedies.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act.

Mr. REED. Madam President, I am pleased to support the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014, and would like to commend the bipartisan work of Senators MIKULSKI and BURR and Chairman HARKIN and Ranking Member LAMAR ALEXANDER. I also commend Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI for her leadership as chair of the Subcommittee on Children and Families, and Senator RICHARD BURR for their commitment to improving the lives of children and their families as the sponsors of this important legislation.

We can all agree that supporting our children should be a priority of the utmost importance, and I am proud of the bipartisan work done by my colleagues toward that end.

The child care and development block grant is an invaluable program that provides assistance to low-income working families. In North Carolina, 78,000 children are served every month by CCDBG funding. These children and families deserve high quality childcare so that parents, like the ones I hear from in my State every day, can go to work with the knowledge that their children are safe and receiving high quality care.

Last year, I visited Elm Street Day Care Center in Greensboro, NC, where I saw the importance of childcare, and development block grant funding firsthand. I saw how this program is helping working families in North Carolina and noted ways we could update this law to make it work better and more efficiently.

I am pleased this bill takes a significant step toward providing more information to parents about their children’s care and encourages States to follow North Carolina’s lead and increase the quality of childcare centers.

Currently, States must spend at least 4 percent of their Federal childcare
Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, we have no further debate on the two pending amendments—Portman No. 2847 and Sanders No. 2846—and the substitute. I know of—Madam President, I was misinformed. I thought those amendments had already been called up.

Madam President, I would like to call up in order Portman amendment No. 2847 and Sanders amendment No. 2846 and ask for their immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN] proposes, en bloc, for Mr. PORTMAN, an amendment numbered 2847, and for Mr. SANDERS an amendment numbered 2846.

The amendments are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 2847

(Purpose: To provide that a child care staff member who has been convicted of a violent misdemeanor against a child or a misdemeanor involving child pornography is ineligible for employment by certain child care providers)

On page 120, strike line 12 and insert the following:

preceeding 5 years; or

"(E) has been convicted of a violent misdemeanor committed as an adult against a child, including, but not limited to, the following crimes: child abuse, child endangerment, sexual assault, or of a misdemeanor involving child pornography.

AMENDMENT NO. 2846

(Purpose: To express the sense of the Senate on significantly reducing child poverty by calendar year 2019)

On page 141, insert at the end the following:

SEC. 13. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCING CHILD POVERTY BY CALENDAR YEAR 2019.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) the United States has the highest rate of childhood poverty among 34 major countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, including Denmark, Finland, Norway, Iceland, Cyprus, Austria, Sweden, the Czech Republic, Germany, Slovenia, Hungary, South Korea, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Ireland, France, Malta, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Estonia, Belgium, New Zealand, Poland, Canada, Australia, Japan, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, Spain, and Bulgaria;

(2) a record-breaking 46,496,000 individuals lived in poverty in the United States in 2012, which is an increase of 14,915,000 individuals since 2000;

(3) 16,073,000 children in the United States lived in poverty in 2012, which is an increase of 4,466,000 children since 2000;

(4) more than 220,000 children in the United States, 40 percent of children living in poverty in the United States, live in extreme poverty (defined as living in families with an income that is less than half of the poverty level);

(5) nearly 1,200,000 public school students in the United States were homeless in the 2011–2012 school year, an increase of 73 percent since the 2006–2007 school year;

(6) in an average month in fiscal year 2011, 1,200,000 households with children in the United States did not have any cash income and, for food, depended only on benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(7) in 2012, government assistance programs removed from poverty 9,000,000 children, including 5,300,000 children through the earned income tax credit under section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the child tax credit under section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; 2,200,000 children through the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(8) in 2012, child poverty would have been 57 percent higher, and extreme poverty would have been 240 percent higher, without government transfers and food, housing, and energy benefits;

(9) in 2013, an individual working full-time at the Federal minimum wage could not afford the fair market rent for a 2-bedroom rental unit and have enough money for food, utilities, and other necessities;

(10) in school years 2009–2010 and 2010–2011, less than half of children ages 3 and 4 were enrolled in preschool;

(11) Early Head Start programs carried out under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) served only one of the 2,000,000 eligible poor infants and toddlers each day in fiscal year 2012, and Head Start programs carried out under such Act served only 41 percent of the 2,000,000 eligible poor children ages 3 and 4;

(12) more than 220,000 children are on waiting lists for child care assistance; and

(13) child poverty in the United States is not less than $500,000,000 per year in additional education, health, and criminal justice costs and in lost productivity.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the President should immediately present to Congress a comprehensive plan to significantly reduce child poverty in the United States by calendar year 2019.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, as I said, I know of no further debate on those amendments. We are ready to vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, if the Senator will yield, we could do it diligently, we could do it deliberatively, and we could do it with courtesy and civility. This is the way the Senate should be. Within 2 days we have arrived at a great bill, with cooperation and civility on both sides of the aisle, I hope this becomes a model for the way the Senate will conduct itself for the rest of the session.

I have been very proud to be part of this bill, of the Senator RICHARD BURR of North Carolina, my Republican counterpart on the children's committee, with all of the due diligence we did for a year and a half. I also thank Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER for his steadfast leadership and input, and my friend TOY HARKIN, our leader, who, as he wraps up his Senate career, will never wrap up his advocacy for America's children.

I thank all of our staff for the great work they did in the 100 meetings with stakeholders and the 200 meetings with us.

Madam President, I am ready for the vote and yield the floor.
Jessica McNiece for their hard work and steady support of getting this bill through the Senate. The Chairman of the committee has an outstanding staff who are all very capable and dedicated, especially Mario Cardone, Michael Otero, and his new Staff Director, Derek Miller. I thank them for their close working relationship with my staff.

We know that these bills don’t just suddenly appear. Legislative Counsel staff spend hours on the bill and then on the amendments, so I would like to especially thank Liz King, Kristin Romero, Katie Grendon, Bill Baird, and Rob Silver.

And we always rely on our experts at the Congressional Research Service to give us good information in a timely manner, so I extend our thanks to Karen Lynch.

Finally I would like to thank my staff. They have put in a lot of time and effort to make this a process the Senate can be proud of, and I appreciate their efforts and late nights on this bill. So my thanks go out to Diane Tran, Bill Knudson, Marty West, Patrick Murray, Peter Oppenheim, Michael Merrell, David Cleary, Liz Wolfe, and Jeffries.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the amendments en bloc. The amendments (Nos. 2847 and 2846) were agreed to en bloc.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I withdraw my pending amendment. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is withdrawn.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, again, I know of no further amendments or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the adoption of the committee substitute, as amended.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I would like to join my colleagues and thank everyone for getting this bill done. This is a good bill. First, I would again say thanks to both Senator BURR and Senator MIKULSKI’s staff.

Finally, I would like to thank Pam Smith, who is not here but who worked on this for a long time, Derek Miller, Mildred Otero, Mario Cardona, Sonia Coleman, Michael Gamel McCormick, Leanne Botek, Brit Moller, and Alissa Canchola of my staff.

I also wish to thank, from the staffs of Senator MURRAY, Sarah Bolton; Senator SANDERS, David Cohen; Senator CASEY, Sara Mahy and Christian Baumgardner; Senator HAGAN, Ashley Eden; Senator FRANKEN, Gohar Sedighi and Maggie Henderson; Senator BENNET, Juliana Herman and Molly Fishman; Senator WHITEHOUSE, Rick Van der Veen; Senator EDWARDS, Michael Dinapoli; Senator MURPHY, Yoon Hayne; Senator WARREN, Julie Morgan; Senator ENZI, Kristin Chapman; Senator ISAKSON, Brett Layson; Senator PAUL, Natalie Burkholtzer; Senator HATCH, Katie Neal; Senator ROBERTS, Joshua Yurek; Senator MURKOWSKI, Karen McCarthy; Senator KIRK, Cabe Clurman; and Senator SCOTT, Elizabeth Simmons.

As I said at the beginning of this bill’s consideration, this bill represents a strong, positive shift for working families in America who benefit from the childcare subsidy program. I hope my colleagues will join all of us in voting to give this an overwhelming vote of yes on final passage.

I know of no further debate on the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

Mr. HARKIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

CORKY. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. IN霍FE) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 77 Leg.]

YEAS—96

Alexander

Franken

Murphy

Fischer

Gillibrand

Murphy

Baldwin

Graham

Nelson

Barrasso

Grassley

Paul

Begich

Hagan

Portman

Bennet

Harkin

Pyror

Blumenthal

Hatch

Reed

Blunt

Heitkamp

Risch

Boozman

Heller

Roberts

Brown

Hirono

Rockefeller

Brown

Insko

Sanders

Cardwell

Johnson (SD)

Schumer

Carper

Johnson (WI)

Scott

Casey

Kaine

Sessions

Chambliss

King

Shaheen

Coats

Kirk

Shelby

Collins

Kochluxchar

Stabenow

Collins

Landrieu

Tester

Cochrane

Leahy

Thune

Cochrane

Levin

Toomey

Collins

Levy

Vitter

Collins

Lieberman

Walsh

Cornyn

Manchin

 Udall (CO)

Crapo

McCain

Udall (NM)

Crus

McCain

Vitter

Donnelly

McCaskill

Walsh

Durbin

McConnell

Wamp

Eckardt

Menendez

Warren

Feinstein

Merkel

Whitehouse

Fiak

Mukowski

Wicker

Flake

Mukowski

Wyn

NAYs—2

Coburn

Lee

NOT VOTING—2

Inhofe

Moran

The bill (S. 1086), as amended, was passed as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014".

SEC. 2. SHORT TITLE AND PURPOSES.

Section 65A of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9801 note) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 65A. SHORT TITLE AND PURPOSES.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This subchapter may be cited as the 'Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990'.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this subchapter are—

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

(2) to promote parental choice to empower working parents to make their own decisions regarding the child care that best suits their family’s needs;

(3) to assist States in providing high-quality child care services to parents trying to achieve independence from public assistance; and

(4) to assist States in improving the overall quality of child care services and programs by implementing the health, safety, licensing, training, and oversight standards
established in this subchapter and in State law (including regulations);

“(5) to improve school readiness by having children, families, and child care providers engage in activities, in child care settings that are developmentally appropriate and age-appropriate for the children and that promote children’s language and literacy and mathematical and emotional development, physical health and development, and approaches to learning;

“(6) to encourage States to provide consumer education information to help parents make informed choices about child care services and to promote involvement by parents and family members in the education of their child care settings;

“(7) to increase the number and percentage of low-income children in high-quality child care settings; and

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

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 658B of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858) is amended by striking “subchapter” and all that follows, and inserting “subchapter” or, if applicable, “paragraph” as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2020.”.

SEC. 4. LEAD AGENCY.

(a) DISPOSITION.—Section 658B(a) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858(b)) is amended —

(1) by striking “chief executive officer” and inserting “Governor”; and

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

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

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

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

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) to the extent practicable, are appropriate for a population of children that includes low-income children, [(i) information on existing (as of the date of such an inspection and, where applicable, on corrective action taken.]

“(B) CONSUMER EDUCATION INFORMATION.—

The plan shall include data and information that the State will collect and disseminate (which dissemination may be done, except as otherwise specified in this subparagraph, through the State’s licensing authority, the State’s processes for conducting background checks, and monitoring and inspections, of child care providers, and the offenses that prevent individuals and entities from serving as child care providers in the State;

“(I) information that will promote informed child care choices and that concerns—

“(I) the availability of child care services provided through programs authorized under this subchapter and, if feasible, other child care services and other programs provided in the State for which the family may be eligible;

“(II) if available, information about the quality of providers, including information from a Quality Rating and Improvement System;

“(III) information, made available through a State website, describing the State process for determining if a provider is eligible for licensing, child care providers, the State processes for conducting background checks, and monitoring and inspections, of child care providers, and the offenses that prevent individuals and entities from serving as child care providers in the State;

“(IV) the availability of assistance to obtain child care services;

“(V) other programs for which families that receive child care services for which financial assistance is provided in accordance with this subchapter may be eligible, including—

“(I) the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), Head Start and Early Head Start programs carried out under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), and the Early Head Start program established pursuant to section 619 and part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (42 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.), in conducting developmental guidelines (where applicable), and the State’s child development and health standards;

“(II) a description of how a family or eligible child care provider may be eligible for assistance under this subparagraph who may be at risk for cognitive or other developmental delays, which may include social, emotional, physical, or language delays; and

“(III) information, for parents receiving assistance under the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and low-income parents, about eligibility for assistance provided in accordance with this subchapter.

“(F) COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) In general.—The plan shall include a certification that the State has in effect the policies and coordinate with such Indian tribe or tribal organization in the development of the plan.

“(2) in paragraph (2)—

“(f) by striking “subchapter” and all that follows and inserting “paragraph” as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2020.”.

“(G) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) In general.—The plan shall describe the training requirements that are in effect within the State that are designed to enable child care providers to promote the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of children and that are applicable to child care providers that provide services for which assistance is provided in accordance with this subchapter.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall provide an assurance that such training requirements—

“(A) provide a set of workforce and competency standards for child care providers that provide services described in clause (1); and

“(B) are developed in consultation with State’s Advisory Council on Child–hood Education and Care (designated or established pursuant to section 622(b)(1)(A)(i)) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9801 et seq.) and the Early Head Start–Program (42 U.S.C. 9821 et seq.).

“(I) include an evidence-based training framework that is designed to promote children’s learning and development and school readiness and to improve child outcomes, including school readiness and early language and literacy development;

“(IV) incorporate knowledge and application of the State’s early childhood developmental guidelines (where applicable), and the State’s child development and health standards; and

“(B) the extent practicable, are appropriate for a population of children that includes—
(aa) different age groups (such as infants, toddlers, and preschoolers); 
(bb) English learners; 
(cc) children with disabilities; and 
(dd) children, including Indians, as the term is defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b) (including Alaskan Natives within the meaning of that term), and Native Hawaiians (as defined in section 7207 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2717)).

(iii) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—In developing the requirements, the State shall develop a statewide progression of professional development designed to improve the skills and knowledge of the workforce—

(I) which may include the acquisition of coursework in postsecondary education or of a credential, aligned with the framework; and 

(II) which shall be accessible to providers supported through Indian tribes or tribal organizations that receive assistance under this subchapter.

(iv) ALIGNMENT.—The State shall engage in partnerships on Early Childhood Education and Care, and may engage institutions of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) and other providers in aligning training opportunities with the State’s training framework.

(v) The Secretary shall not require an individual or entity that provides child care services for which assistance is provided in accordance with this subchapter to acquire a credential to provide such services. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a State from requiring a credential.

(vi) CHILD-TO-PROVIDER RATIO STANDARDS.—

(I) STANDARDS.—The plan shall describe child care standards, for child care for which assistance is made available in accordance with this subchapter, appropriate to the type of child care setting involved, that address—

(I) group size limits for specific age populations; 

(II) the appropriate ratio between the number of children and the number of providers, in terms of the age of the children in child care, as determined by the Secretary; and 

(III) required qualifications for such providers.

(ii) CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary may offer guidance to States on child-to-provider ratios described in clause (i) according to setting and age group but shall not require that States maintain specific child-to-provider ratios for providers who receive assistance under this subchapter.

(iii) HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.—The plan shall include a certification that procedures are in effect to ensure that child care providers within the State, that provide services for which assistance is made available in accordance with this subchapter, comply with all applicable State and local health and safety requirements as described in subparagraph (I).

(iv) ENFORCEMENT OF LICENSING AND OTHER REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.—

(I) CERTIFICATION.—The plan shall include a certification that the State, not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014, shall have in effect policies and practices, applicable to licensing or regulating child care providers that provide services for which assistance is made available in accordance with this subchapter, and the facilities of those providers, that—

(a) ensure that all persons who are hired as licensing inspectors in the State are qualified to inspect those child care providers and facilities and have received training in related health and safety requirements, child development, child abuse prevention and detection, program management, and relevant law enforcement; 

(b) require licensing inspectors (or qualified inspectors designated by the lead agency) of those child care providers and facilities to perform inspections, with—

(aa) not less than 1 precertification inspection for compliance with health, safety, and fire standards, of each such child care provider and facility in the State; and 

(bb) not less than 1 inspection (which shall be unannounced) of each such child care provider and facility in the State for compliance with all child care licensing requirements based on a review of relevant records for compliance with health, safety, and fire standards (although inspectors may or may not inspect for compliance with all 3 standards at the same time); and 

(c) require the ratio of the number of medical exhausted contracts or grants to contractors for services at the same time); and 

(ii) CREDENTIALING.—The plan shall include a certification that child care providers within the State will comply with the child care reporting requirements of section 106(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(2)(B)(ii)).

(M) MEETING THE NEEDS OF CERTAIN POPULATIONS.—The plan shall describe how the State will develop and implement strategies (which may include the provision of compensations at higher pay rates and benefits to child care providers, the provision of direct contracts or grants to community-based organizations, offering child care certificates to parents, or other means determined by the State) to increase the supply and improve the quality of child care for—

(I) children in underserved areas; 

(ii) infants and toddlers; 

(iii) children with disabilities, as defined by the State; and 

(iv) children who receive care during non-traditional hours.

(N) PROTECTION FOR WORKING PARENTS.—

(i) MINIMUM PERIOD.—

(ii) 12-MONTH PERIOD.—

(iii) 12-MONTH PERIOD.—The plan shall demon-
which the family was receiving the assistance, without continuing the assistance for a reasonable period of time, of not less than 3 months, after such loss or cessation in order for the family to place in a job and resume work, or resume attendance at a job training or educational program, as soon as possible.

''(IV) GRADUATED PHASEOUT OF CARE.—The plan shall describe the policies and procedures that are in place to allow for provision of continued assistance to carry out this subchapter by any of a new child and period under clause (i)(I), for children of parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program whose family income exceeds the State’s income limit to initially qualify for such assistance, if the family income for the family involved does not exceed 85 percent of the median income for a family of the same size.

''(V) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall describe how the State, in order to expand accessibility and continuity of quality early childhood education and care, and assist children enrolled therein, will adapt, the Head Start, or Head Start programs to receive full-day services, will efficiently coordinate the services supported to carry out this subchapter.

''(ii) STATEWIDE CHILD CARE DISASTER PLAN.—Such plan shall include a statewide child care disaster plan for coordination of activities and collaboration, in the event of emergency or disaster, for: (A) among the State agency with jurisdiction over the State, and the agency with jurisdiction over the education in kindergarten through grade 3; or

''(I) supporting learning or improving a child’s abilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.); (II) by striking ''and any other activity

''activities that improve access to child care services supported to carry out this subchapter;''

''(III) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—The plan shall include an assurance that funds received by the State to carry out this subchapter will not be used to develop or implement an assessment for children that—

''(i) will be the sole basis for a child care program; (ii) will be used as the primary or sole basis for deciding whether to award or sanction for an individual provider; (iii) will be used as the primary or sole method for assessing program effectiveness; or

''(ii) STATEWIDE CHILD CARE PLAN.—Such plan shall include an assurance that the State will develop or implement a plan for early childhood education and care and to increase the supply and quality of child care services for children who are less than 13 years of age, such as by enhancing or improving voluntary shared services alliance models.

''(Q) PRIORITY FOR LOW-INCOME POPULATIONS.—The plan shall describe the process the State proposes to use, with respect to investments made to increase access to programs providing high-quality early childhood education and care, to give priority for the enrollment of families in areas that have significant concentrations of poverty and unemployment and that do not have such programs.

''(R) CONSULTATION.—The plan shall include a certification that the State has developed the plan in consultation with the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care designated or established pursuant to section 642(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9830b(b)(1)(A)(i)).

''(8) PAYMENT PRACTICES.—The plan shall include a certification that the payment practices of child care providers in the State that serve children who receive assistance under this subchapter reflect generally accepted payment practices of child care providers in the State that serve children who do not receive assistance under this subchapter, so as to provide stability of funding and encourage child care providers to serve children who receive assistance under this subchapter.

''(T) EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENTAL GUIDELINES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall include an assurance that the State will develop or implement early learning and developmental guidelines that are appropriate for children from birth through entry into kindergarten, describing what such children should know and be able to do in the essential domains of early childhood education and care and early childhood development for use statewide by child care providers.

''(ii) ALIGNMENT.—The guidelines shall be research-based, developmentally appropriate, and aligned with State guidelines, or early learning standards, as defined, or early learning and developmental guidelines, or early learning and developmental standards, as defined, or early learning standards, as defined, for education in kindergarten through grade 3; or

''(III) require a State to submit such standards or measures for review.

''(U) DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan shall demonstrate a plan, in any of which the State will address the needs of children in child care services provided through programs authorized under this subchapter, including the Head Start Program, and emergency or disaster (as such terms are defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 752)).

''(ii) STATEWIDE CHILD CARE DISASTER PLAN.—Such plan shall include a statewide child care disaster plan for coordination of activities and collaboration, in the event of emergency or disaster, for:

''(i) the purposes of providing program improvement activities that improve access to child care services, including use of procedures to permit immediate enrollment (after the initial eligibility determination and after a child is
determined to be eligible) of homeless children while required documentation is obtained, trained, and technical assistance on identifying and serving homeless children and their children within specific out-of-home care, homeless families, and any other activity that the State determines to be appropriate to meet the purposes of this subchapter (which may include an activity described in clause (ii))''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

"(ii) REPORT BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.—

"(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30 of each fiscal year thereafter, the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families shall—

"(aa) provide to the Secretary of the Treasury the plan consistent with the requirements of this subchapter—

"(bb) to the extent practicable, work directly with families who receive assistance under this subchapter to offer the families support and assistance, using information obtained in item (aa), to make an informed decision about which child care providers they will use, in an effort to ensure that the families are enrolling their children in high-quality care;

"(cc) collect and analyze data on the coordination of services and supports, including the stated reason from the State for one year to the penalty applied in paragraph (2)(E) (except as otherwise provided in that paragraph), concerning the full range of child care options, analyzed by program, and any such other relevant information the Secretary deems necessary.

"(ii) CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL SYSTEM.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A State may use amounts described in clause (i) to establish or support a system of local or regional child care resource and referral organizations that is coordinated, to the extent determined appropriate by the State, by a statewide public or private nonprofit, community-based or regionally based, lead child care resource and referral organization.

"(B) LOCAL OR REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

The local or regional child care resource and referral organizations supported as described in subclause (I) shall—

"(aa) provide in the State with consumer education information referred to in paragraph (1)(B)(ij) (such as otherwise provided in that paragraph), concerning the full range of child care options, analyzed by program, including child care provided during nontraditional hours and through emergency child care centers, in their political subdivisions or regions;

"(bb) to the extent practicable, work directly with families who receive assistance under this subchapter to offer the families support and assistance, using information obtained in item (aa), to make an informed decision about which child care providers they will use, in an effort to ensure that the families are enrolling their children in high-quality care;

"(cc) collect and analyze data on the coordination of services and supports, including the stated reason from the State for one year to the penalty applied in paragraph (2)(E) (except as otherwise provided in that paragraph), concerning the full range of child care options, analyzed by program, and any such other relevant information the Secretary deems necessary.

"(ii) WHETHER THE PROVIDERS PROVIDE CHILD CARE DURING WEEKEND AND OTHER NONTRADITIONAL HOURS OR

"(iii) THE STATE’S DETERMINATION THAT SUCH DIFFERENTIATED PAYMENT RATES ARE NEEDED TO ENABLE A PARENT TO CHOOSE CHILD CARE THAT IS OF HIGH QUALITY.''; and

"(D) DIRECT SERVICES.—From amounts provided to a State under this subchapter to meet the purposes of this subchapter (as—

"(i) reserve the minimum amount required to be reserved under section 658G, and the funds for costs described in subparagraph (C) and

"(ii) remain (that is, 70 percent to fund direct services (provided to a State) in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).), and

"(E) PAYMENT RATES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The State plan shall certify that payment rates for the provision of child care services in the State in accordance with this subchapter are sufficient to ensure equal access for eligible children to child care services in the State or substate area involved that are provided to children whose parents are not eligible to receive assistance under this subchapter to receive child care assistance under any other Federal or State program and shall provide a summary of the facts relied on by the State to determine that such rates are sufficient for such access.

"(B) SURVEY.—The State plan shall—

"(i) demonstrate that the State has, after consulting with the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care designated or established in section 624B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i)), local child care program administrators, local child care resource and referral agencies, and other appropriate entities, developed and conducted (not earlier than 2 years before the date of the subchapter) a statistically valid and reliable survey of the market rates for child care services in the State (that reflects variations in such services by geographic area, type of provider, and age of child);

"(ii) demonstrate that the State prepared a detailed report containing the results of the State market rates survey conducted pursuant to clause (i), and made the results of the survey publicly available (not later than 30 days after the completion of such survey) through periodic means, including posting the results on the Internet;

"(III) WITHOUT, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, REDUCING THE NUMBER OF FAMILIES IN THE STATE RECEIVING SUCH ASSISTANCE TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBCHAPTER, TO REACH OR MAINTAIN, TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON THE RANGE OF CHILD CARE OPTIONS, ANALYZED BY PROGRAM, AND ANY SUCH OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION THE SECRETARY DEEMS NECESSARY.
(A) to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1), not less than—

(i) 6 percent of the funds described in paragraph (1), for the first and second fiscal years after the date of enactment; and

(ii) 8 percent of such funds, for the third and fourth fiscal years after the date of enactment; and

(B) in addition to the funds reserved under subparagraph (A), 3 percent of the funds described in paragraph (1), for the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment and each succeeding fiscal year, to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1) and subparagraph (b)(4), as such activities relate to the quality of care for infants and toddlers.

(b) ACTIVITIES—Funds reserved under subsection (a) shall be used to carry out not fewer than the following activities:

(1) Supporting the training, professional development, and professional advancement of the child care workforce through activities such as—

(A) offering child care providers training and professional development that is intentional and focused and leads to a higher level of skill or certification;

(B) establishing or supporting programs designed to increase the retention and improve the quality of early childhood education and care experts; and

(C) offering training, professional development, or mentorship to early childhood development experts and caregivers who have knowledge relating to the early neurological development of children; and

(2) Supporting the early learning and developmental guidelines described in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and

(C) offering training, professional development, or mentorship to early childhood development and reduce challenge behaviors; and

(D) providing training concerning the early learning and developmental guidelines, where applicable, including training concerning the early childhood development and reduce challenge behaviors; and

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

(F) including effective behavior management strategies and training, including positive behavioral interventions and supports, that promote positive social and emotional development and reduce challenge behaviors; and

(G) offering training to early childhood development experts and early childhood education and care experts;

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

(I) providing training or professional development for child care providers to serve and support children with disabilities, including training and technical assistance for early childhood development and early childhood education and care experts; and

(J) providing training and outreach on engaging parents and families in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways to expand their understanding of their children, and capacity to become meaningful partners in supporting their children’s learning and development;

(K) providing training or professional development for child care providers regarding the early neurological development of children; and

(L) offering training and professional development for child care providers with available Federal and State financial aid, or other resources, that would assist child care staff to become members in pursuing relevant postsecondary training.

(2) Supporting the use of the early learning and developmental guidelines described in paragraph (1), for the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment and each succeeding fiscal year, to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1) and subparagraph (b)(4), as such activities relate to the quality of care for infants and toddlers.

(b) ACTIVITIES—Funds reserved under subsection (a) shall be used to carry out not fewer than the following activities:

(1) Supporting the training, professional development, and professional advancement of the child care workforce through activities such as—

(A) offering child care providers training and professional development that is intentional and focused and leads to a higher level of skill or certification;

(B) establishing or supporting programs designed to increase the retention and improve the quality of early childhood education and care experts; and

(C) offering training, professional development, or mentorship to early childhood development experts and caregivers who have knowledge relating to the early neurological development of children; and

(2) Supporting the early learning and developmental guidelines described in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and

(C) offering training, professional development, or mentorship to early childhood development and reduce challenge behaviors; and

(D) providing training concerning the early learning and developmental guidelines, where applicable, including training concerning the early childhood development and reduce challenge behaviors; and

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

(F) including effective behavior management strategies and training, including positive behavioral interventions and supports, that promote positive social and emotional development and reduce challenge behaviors; and

(G) offering training to early childhood development experts and early childhood education and care experts;

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

(I) providing training or professional development for child care providers to serve and support children with disabilities, including training and technical assistance for early childhood development and early childhood education and care experts; and

(J) providing training and outreach on engaging parents and families in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways to expand their understanding of their children, and capacity to become meaningful partners in supporting their children’s learning and development;
SEC. 7. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS.

The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9658 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 658E the following:

"SEC. 658H. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives federal funds to carry out this subchapter shall have in effect—

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

"(2) licensing, regulation, and registration requirements, as applicable, that prohibit the employment of child care staff members as described in subsection (c).

"(b) REQUIREMENTS.—A criminal background check for a child care staff member under subsection (a) shall include—

"(1) a search of each State criminal and sex offender registry or repository in the State where the child care staff member resides and each State where such staff member resided during the preceding 10 years;

"(2) a search of State-based child abuse and neglect registries and databases in the State where the child care staff member resides and each State where such staff member resided during the preceding 10 years;

"(3) a search of the National Crime Information Center;

"(4) a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint check using the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System; and

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

"(c) PROHIBITIONS.—

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

"(A) refuses to consent to the criminal background check described in subsection (b);

"(B) knowingly makes a materially false statement in connection with such criminal background check;

"(C) is a registered, or is required to be registered, on a State sex offender registry or repository or the National Sex Offender Registry established under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16901 et seq.); or

"(D) has been convicted of a felony consisting of—

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

"(ii) child abuse or neglect;

"(iii) a crime against children, including child pornography;

"(iv) spousal abuse;

"(v) a crime involving rape or sexual assault;

"(vi) kidnaping;

"(vii) arson;

"(viii) physical assault or battery; or

"(ix) subject to subsection (e)(4), a drug-related offense committed during the preceding 5 years; or

"(E) has been convicted of a violent misdemeanor committed as an adult against a child, including the following crimes: child abuse, child endangerment, sexual assault, or of a misdemeanor involving child pornography.

"(2) CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.—A child care provider described in paragraph (1) shall be ineligible for assistance provided in accordance with this subchapter if the provider employs a staff member who is ineligible for employment under paragraph (1).

"(d) SUBMISSION OF REQUESTS FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.

"(1) IN GENERAL.—A child care provider covered by subsection (c) shall submit a request, to the appropriate State agency designated by a criminal background check described in subsection (b), for each child care staff member (including prospective child care staff members) of the provider.

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

"(A) prior to the date the individual becomes a child care staff member of the provider; and

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

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

"(A) prior to the date the individual becomes a child care staff member of the provider; and

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

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

"(A) the staff member received a background check described in subsection (b); that

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

"(ii) while employed by or seeking employment by another child care provider within the State;

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

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

"(e) BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS AND APPEALS.

"(1) BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS.—The State shall carry out the request of a child care provider for a criminal background check as expeditiously as possible, but in no event exceed 45 days after the date on which such request was submitted, and shall provide the results of the criminal background check to such provider and to the current or prospective staff member.

"(2) PRIVACY.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The State shall provide the results of the criminal background check to the provider in a statement that indicates whether a child care staff member (including a prospective child care staff member) is eligible or ineligible for employment described in subsection (c), without revealing any disqualifying crime or other related information regarding the individual.

"(B) INELIGIBLE STAFF MEMBER.—If the child care provider is ineligible for such employment due to the background check, the State will, when providing the results of the background check, include information related to the individual including a report to the staff member or prospective staff member.

"(f) FEES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.—Fees for a background check conducted under this section shall not exceed the actual costs to the State for the processing and administration of the background check, and shall be charged to the child care provider.

"(g) PUBLIC RELEASE OF RESULTS.—No State shall publicly release or share the results of individual background checks, however, such results of background checks may be included in the development or dissemination of local or statewide data related to background checks, if such results are not individually identifiable.

"(h) APPEALS.

"(1) APPEALS.—The State shall provide a process by which a child care staff member (including a prospective child care staff member) may appeal the results of a criminal background check conducted under this section to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in such member’s criminal background report.

"(2) APPEALS PROCESS.—The State shall ensure that—

"(i) each child care staff member shall be given notice of the opportunity to appeal;

"(ii) a child care staff member will receive instructions about how to complete the appeals process if the child care staff member wishes to challenge the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in such member’s criminal background report; and

"(iii) the appeals process is completed in a timely manner for each child care staff member.

"(4) REVIEW.—The State may allow for a review process through which the State may determine that a child care staff member (including a prospective child care staff member) disqualified for a crime specified in subsection (c)(1)(D)(ix) is eligible for employment described in subsection (c)(1)(B), notwithstanding subsections (c)(1)(C), (c)(1)(D)(i), and (c)(1)(D)(ii). The review process shall be consistent with title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.).

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

"(6) FEES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.—Fees that a State may charge for the costs of processing applications and administering a criminal background check as required by this section shall not exceed the actual costs to the State for the processing and administration of the background check.

"(7) CONSTRUCTION.

"(1) DISQUALIFICATION FOR OTHER CRIMES.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a State from disqualifying individuals as child care staff members based on their convictions for crimes not specifically listed in this section that bear upon the fitness of an individual to provide care for and have responsibility for the safety and well-being of children.

"(2) RIGHTS AND REMEDIES.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter or otherwise affect the rights and remedies provided for child care staff members residing in a State that disqualifies individuals as child care staff members for crimes not specifically provided for under this section.

"(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

"(1) the term ‘child care provider’ means a center-based child care provider, a family child care provider, or another provider of child care services for compensation and on a regular basis that

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

"(B) is licensed, regulated, or registered under State law or receives assistance provided in accordance with this subchapter; and

"(2) the term ‘child care staff member’ means an individual (other than an individual who is related to all children for whom child care services are provided) —
“(A) who is employed by a child care provider for compensation;”

“(B) whose activities involve the care or supervision of children for a child care provider;”

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

“1) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives funds under this subchapter shall meet the requirements of this section for the provision of criminal background checks for child care staff members described in subsection (d)(1) not later than the last day of the second fiscal year following the date of enactment of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014.

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

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

“SEC. 8. REPORTS AND INFORMATION.

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

“(1) in subsection (a)—

“(A) in paragraph (2)—

“(i) by inserting a comma after “publish”;

“(ii) by striking “and” at the end;

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

“(3) Provide technical assistance to States (which may include providing assistance on a reimbursable basis), consistent with (as appropriate) scientifically valid research, to carry out this subchapter.

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

“(4) disseminate, for voluntary informational purposes, information on practices that scientifically valid research indicates are most successful in improving the quality of programs that receive assistance with this subchapter.

“(d) AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION AND THE HEADS OF ANY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES INVOLVED, ISSUE GUIDANCE, AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ON BEST PRACTICES, REGARDING HOW COMBINED BY STATES AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 658E(C)(2)(O)(II), CONSISTENT WITH LAW OTHER THAN THIS SUBCHAPTER;”

“(b) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed as requiring the Secretary to compel States to alter the eligibility requirements for eligible children, including work requirements that apply to the parents of eligible children.

“2) IN GENERAL.—The State may submit to the Secretary, the authority to permit States to alter the eligibility requirements for eligible children, including work requirements that apply to the parents of eligible children.

“(A) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Section 658(a) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, as amended by subsection (a), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) REQUEST FOR RELIEF.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The State may submit to the Secretary a request for relief from any provision of Federal law (including a regulation, policy, or procedure) affecting the delivery of child care services with Federal funds otherwise covered by this subchapter, that conflicts with a requirement of this subchapter.

“(2) CONTENTS.—Such request shall—

“(C) certify that the health, safety, and well-being of children served through assistance received under this subchapter will not be compromised as a result.

“(3) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall consult with the head of each Federal agency (other than the Secretary) with responsibility for administering the Federal law detailed in the State’s request. The consulting parties shall jointly identify—

“(A) any provision of Federal law (including a regulation, policy, or procedure) for which a waiver is necessary to enable the State to provide services in accordance with the request; and

“(B) any corresponding waiver.

“(4) WAIVERS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and after the joint identification described in paragraph (3), the head of the Federal agency involved shall have the authority to waive any statutory provision administered by that agency, or any regulation, policy, or procedure issued by that agency, that has been so identified, unless the head of the Federal agency determines that such a waiver is inconsistent with the objectives of this subchapter or the Federal law from which relief is sought.

“(5) APPROVAL.—Not later than 90 days after the receipt of a State’s request under this subsection, the Secretary shall inform the State of the Secretary’s approval or disapproval of the request. If the plan is disapproved, the Secretary shall inform the State, in writing, of the reasons for the disapproval and give the State the opportunity to amend the request.

“(6) DURATION.—The Secretary may approve a request under this subsection for a period of not more than 3 years, and may renew the approval for additional periods of not more than 3 years.

“(7) TERMINATION.—The Secretary shall terminate approval of a request after a period of 3 years is completed, or after notice and opportunity for a hearing, that the performance of a State granted relief under this subsection has not been adequate, or if such relief is no longer necessary to achieve its original purpose.

“(c) REPORTS.—Section 658(a) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858(a)) is amended—

“(1) in paragraph (1)—

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

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

“(C) in clause (x), by inserting after clause (x), the following:

“(xii) whether the children receiving assistance under this subchapter are homeless children;”

“(2) in paragraph (2)—

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

“(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “section 658(f)(6)” and inserting “section 658(f)(7)”;

“(c) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Section 658(b) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858) is amended—

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

“(SEC. 658L, REPORTS, HOTLINE, AND WEB SITE;)

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

“(a) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not later:”

“(B) by striking “1998” and inserting “2016”;

“(c) by striking “to the Committee” and all that follows through “of the Senate” and—

“serving to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate”;

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

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

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

“(a) develop and disseminate publicly available child care consumer education information for parents and help parents access, affordable, and quality child care in their community; and

“(b) to allow persons to report (anonymously if desired) suspected child abuse or neglect, or violations of health and safety regulations, by an eligible child care provider that receives assistance under this subchapter.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the hotline and Web site meet the following requirements:

“(A) REFERRAL TO LOCAL CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.—The Web site shall be hosted by ‘childcare.gov’. The Web site shall enable a child care consumer to enter a zip code and obtain a referral to local child care providers described in subparagraph (b) within a specified search radius.

“(B) INFORMATION.—The Web site shall provide to consumers, directly or through linkages to State databases, at a minimum—

“(1) a localized list of all State licensed child care providers;

“(2) any provider-specific information from a Quality Rating and Improvement System or information about other quality indicators, to the extent the information is publicly available and to the extent practicable;

“(3) any other provider-specific information about compliance with licensing, and health and safety, requirements to the extent the information is publicly available and to the extent practicable;

“(4) referrals to local resource and referral organizations from which consumers can find more information about child care providers, and a recommendation that consumers consult with the organizations when selecting a child care provider; and

“(5) STATE INFORMATION.—The child care subsidy programs and other financial supports available to families.

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

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

“(E) SERVICES IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.—The Web site and hotline shall ensure the widest possible access to services for families who speak languages other than English.

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

“(3) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to allow the Secretary to compel a State to provide additional data and information that the Secretary determines (as of the date of enactment of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014) not publicly available, or is not required by this subchapter.

“(e) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Section 658(a)(1) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858(a)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:
“(E) PROHIBITION.—Reports submitted to the Secretary under subparagraph (C) shall not contain individually identifiable information.”

SEC. 9. RESERVATION FOR TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB SITE; PAYMENTS TO BENEFIT INDIAN CHILDREN.

Section 658B of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

(ii) by striking “1 percent, and not more than 2 percent,” and inserting “2 percent”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall only reserve an amount that is greater than 2 percent of the amount appropriated under section 658b, for payments described in subparagraph (A), as a fiscal year (referred to in this subparagraph as the ‗reservation year‘) if—

“(i) the amount appropriated under section 658b for the reservation year is greater than the amount appropriated under section 658b for fiscal year 2014; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) NATIONAL TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AND WEB SITE.—The Secretary shall establish a national toll-free hotline and Web site, under section 658l(b).”

SEC. 10. DEFINITIONS.

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

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

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

(A) a child with a disability, as defined in section 652a of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (20 U.S.C. 1401); and

(B) a child who is eligible for early intervention services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.).

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

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

(B) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(C) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(D) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(E) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(F) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(G) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(H) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(I) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(J) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(K) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(L) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(M) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(N) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(O) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(P) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(Q) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(R) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(S) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(T) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(U) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(V) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(W) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(X) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(Y) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(Z) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(AA) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(BB) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(CC) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(DD) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(EE) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(FF) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(GG) who—

(i) resides with a parent or parents who are working or attending a job training or educational program; or

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

“(HH) whose family income does not exceed 85 percent of the State median income for a family of the same size, and whose family assets do not exceed $1,000,000 (as certified by a member of such family); and

“(II) the Indian tribe or tribal organization established under section 658D(a)”; and

“(J) in paragraph (9), as redesignated by paragraph (4), by striking “designated” and all that follows and inserting “designated or established under section 658d(a),”;

“(K) in paragraph (10), as redesignated by paragraph (4), by inserting “, foster parent,” after “guardian”; and

“(L) by redesigning paragraphs (11) through (14) as paragraphs (12) through (15), respectively; and

“(M) by inserting after paragraph (10), as redesigned by paragraph (4), the following:

“(11) SCIENTIFICALLY VALID RESEARCH.—The term ‗scientifically valid research‘ includes applied research, basic research, and field-initiated research, for which the rationale, design, and interpretation are soundly developed in accordance with principles of scientific research.”.

SEC. 10A. PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

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

(1) by inserting after “Nothing the following:

“(aa) the level of child care services will increase; or

(bb) the quality of child care services will improve.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (3) and inserting “paragraph (3)”; and

(B) by redesigning paragraph (2) as paragraph (4);

(3) in subsection (c)(3) of paragraph (2) of this subsection, by striking “subsection (a)(1)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”;
(A) refuses to consent to the background check described in subsection (a) in a criminal background report of the child care staff member for whom the background check is conducted.

(B) The State shall provide the results of a background check to a child care staff member as required by subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) in a statement that—

(i) indicates whether the current or prospective child care staff member is eligible or ineligible for employment by a child care provider; and

(ii) does not reveal any disqualifying crime or other related information regarding the current or prospective child care staff member.

(7) Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a private right of action against a child care provider if the child care provider is in compliance with this section.

(8) In this subsection—

(A) The term 'child care provider' means an agency of the Federal Government, an agency of a State, or a unit of or contractor with the Federal Government that is operating a facility, described in subsection (a); and

(B) the term 'child care staff member' means an individual who is hired, or seeks to be hired, by a child care provider to be involved with the provision of child care services to children of whom at least 50 percent have 1 parent or guardian who—

(i) does not reside in the United States; or

(ii) is not a U.S. citizen.

SEC. 5. ALLOTMENT OF SPACE IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS FOR CHILD CARE.

Section 590 of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (a) through (g) as subsections (b) through (h), respectively;

(2) by inserting before subsection (b) as so redesignated the following:

(a) DEFINITION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEE.—In this section, the term 'Federal employee'—

(i) does not include a person that—

(I) is not employed by the Federal Government;

(ii) employed by the Federal Government as a member of the Armed Forces; or

(iii) meets the requirements described in subsection (c)(2)(B).

(b) EMPLOYMENT OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.—

(i) The space shall be used to provide child care services to children of whom at least 50 percent have 1 parent or guardian who—

(A) is a Federal employee;

(B) is an individual who is—

(I) serving in the Armed Forces; or

(II) a Federal employee;

(c) FUNDING.—

(i) Prior to the date the individual becomes a child care staff member, the State shall—

(A) conduct a criminal background check of the individual; and

(B) determine whether the individual is eligible for employment by a child care provider contained in the background check.

(ii) The State shall provide the results of a background check to a child care provider as required by subparagraph (A) in a statement that—

(I) indicates whether the individual is eligible or ineligible for employment by a child care provider; and

(II) does not reveal any disqualifying crime or other related information regarding the current or prospective child care staff member.

(iii) Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a private right of action against a child care provider if the child care provider is in compliance with this section.

(f) This section shall apply to each State that receives funding under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9358 et seq.).

(g) Fees that the State may charge for the conducting a background check as required by subsection (a) shall not exceed the actual costs to the State for the administration of such background checks.

(h) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a Federal agency from disqualifying an individual as a child care staff member based on a conviction of the individual for a crime specifically listed in this section that bears upon the fitness of an individual to provide care for and have responsibility for the safety and well-being of children.

SEC. 6. SUSPENSION OF DISPOSAL OF CRIMINAL CASES.—In the case of an incident in which an individual has been charged with an offense described in subsection (b)(3)(D) and the charge has not yet been disposed of, no Federal employee may suspend the proceedings arising from having any contact with children while on the job until the case is resolved.

SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1 of the second full fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act.
(1) The United States has the highest rate of childhood poverty among 34 major countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, including Denmark, Finland, Norway, Iceland, Cyprus, Austria, Sweden, the Czech Republic, Germany, Slovenia, Hungary, South Korea, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Ireland, France, Malta, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Estonia, Belgium, New Zealand, Poland, Canada, Australia, Japan, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, Spain, and Bulgaria;

(2) a record-breaking 46,496,000 individuals lived in poverty in the United States in 2012, which is an increase of 11,915,000 individuals since 2000;

(3) 16,073,000 children in the United States lived in poverty in 2012, which is an increase of 4,486,000 children since 2000;

(4) more than 7,100,000 children in the United States, 40 percent of children living in poverty in the United States, live in extreme poverty (defined as living in families with an income that is less than half of the poverty level);

(5) nearly 1,200,000 public school students in the United States were homeless in the 2011–2012 school year, an increase of 73 percent since the 2006–2007 school year;

(6) in an average month in fiscal year 2011, 1,200,000 households with children in the United States did not have any cash income and, for food, depended only on benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(7) in 2012, government assistance programs provided more than 9,000,000 children, including 5,300,000 children through the earned income tax credit under section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the child tax credit under section 21 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and 2,200,000 children through the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(8) in 2012, child poverty would have been 57 percent higher, and extreme poverty would have been 249 percent higher, without government tax credits and food, housing, and energy benefits;

(9) in 2013, an individual working full-time at the Federal minimum wage could not afford the fair market rent for a 2-bedroom rental unit and have enough money for food, utilities, and other necessities;

(10) in school years 2009–2010 and 2010–2011, less than half of children ages 3 and 4 were enrolled in preschool;

(11) Early Head Start programs carried out under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) served only 4 percent of the 2,900,000 eligible poor infants and toddlers each day in fiscal year 2012, and Head Start programs carried out under the Head Start Act served only 41 percent of the 2,000,000 eligible poor children ages 3 and 4;