

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 622

To strengthen families' engagement in the education of their children.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 2, 2015

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. COONS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

---

## A BILL

To strengthen families' engagement in the education of their children.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Family Engagement  
5 in Education Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

7 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. Findings; purpose.
- Sec. 4. Amendment references.
- Sec. 5. Family engagement in education.
- Sec. 6. State plans.
- Sec. 7. Local educational agency plans.

- Sec. 8. Family engagement in education policy.  
 Sec. 9. Prevention and intervention programs for children and youth who are neglected, delinquent, or at risk.  
 Sec. 10. Research and evaluation for family engagement in education.  
 Sec. 11. High-quality teachers and principals.  
 Sec. 12. Definitions.  
 Sec. 13. Repeal of Parental Assistance and Local Family Information Centers.  
 Sec. 14. Conforming amendments.  
 Sec. 15. Government Accountability Office study and report.

1 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Family engagement in a child’s education  
 4 raises student achievement, improves behavior and  
 5 attendance, decreases drop-out rates, and improves  
 6 the emotional and physical well-being of children.

7 (2) Families are critical determinants of chil-  
 8 dren’s school readiness as well as of students’ deci-  
 9 sion to pursue higher education.

10 (3) Effective family engagement is a great  
 11 equalizer for students, contributing to their in-  
 12 creased academic achievement, regardless of parents’  
 13 education level, ethnicity, or socioeconomic back-  
 14 ground.

15 (4) Research on school improvement has identi-  
 16 fied meaningful partnerships with families and com-  
 17 munities as 1 of 5 critical ingredients necessary to  
 18 turnaround chronically low-performing schools.

19 (5) Positive benefits for children, youth, fami-  
 20 lies, and schools are maximized through effective  
 21 family engagement that—

1 (A) is a shared responsibility in which  
2 schools and other community agencies and or-  
3 ganizations are committed to reaching out to  
4 engage families in meaningful ways and families  
5 are committed to actively supporting their chil-  
6 dren’s learning and development;

7 (B) is continuous across a child’s life from  
8 birth to young adulthood; and

9 (C) reinforces learning that takes place in  
10 all settings.

11 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to increase  
12 student success and foster school improvement by  
13 strengthening families’ engagement in the education of  
14 their children.

15 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENT REFERENCES.**

16 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in  
17 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
18 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-  
19 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a  
20 section or other provision of the Elementary and Sec-  
21 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

22 **SEC. 5. FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION.**

23 (a) FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY  
24 FUND.—Title I (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by  
25 adding after section 1004 the following:

1 **“SEC. 1005. FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY**  
2 **FUND.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Each State educational agency  
4 shall reserve not less than 0.3 percent and not more than  
5 1 percent of such agency’s allocated funds under section  
6 1122 for each fiscal year for use as provided in subsection  
7 (b).

8 “(b) USE OF RESERVED FUNDS.—From the amounts  
9 reserved for each fiscal year under subsection (a), each  
10 State educational agency—

11 “(1) shall establish a Statewide Family Engage-  
12 ment Center under section 1006;

13 “(2) shall establish at least 1 Local Family En-  
14 gagement Center under section 1007; and

15 “(3) may allocate any funds remaining after  
16 carrying out paragraphs (1) and (2) for building  
17 State educational agency capacity for family engage-  
18 ment activities under section 1008.

19 “(c) SPECIAL RULE.—If a State’s allocation under  
20 section 1122 for a fiscal year is less than \$60,000,000,  
21 and such State determines that such allocation is insuffi-  
22 cient to establish a center of sufficient size and scope to  
23 meet the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) of sub-  
24 section (b), such State may use its allocation for activities  
25 under section 1008.”.

1 (b) STATEWIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTERS  
2 PROGRAM.—Title I (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended  
3 by adding after section 1005, as added by subsection (a),  
4 the following:

5 **“SEC. 1006. STATEWIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTERS.**

6 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From the funds re-  
7 served under section 1005, each State shall award a grant  
8 or contract to a statewide nonprofit organization to estab-  
9 lish a Statewide Family Engagement Center to provide  
10 comprehensive training, technical assistance, and capacity-  
11 building to local educational agencies, organizations that  
12 support family-school partnerships, and other organiza-  
13 tions that carry out parent education and family engage-  
14 ment in education programs.

15 “(b) APPLICATIONS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each statewide nonprofit  
17 organization that desires a grant under this section  
18 shall submit an application to the State at such  
19 time, in such manner, and accompanied by such in-  
20 formation as the State may require.

21 “(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted  
22 under paragraph (1) shall include, at a minimum,  
23 the following:

1           “(A) A description of the applicant’s ap-  
2           proach to family engagement in education, in-  
3           cluding the use of strength-based strategies.

4           “(B) A description of the applicant’s plan  
5           for improving statewide capacity for family en-  
6           gagement in education, that includes—

7                   “(i) management capacity and govern-  
8                   ance;

9                   “(ii) statewide leadership;

10                   “(iii) systemic services for family en-  
11                   gagement in education;

12                   “(iv) capacity-building for local edu-  
13                   cational agencies, and schools served under  
14                   this title; and

15                   “(v) student learning and school im-  
16                   provement.

17           “(C) A description of the applicant’s expe-  
18           rience in providing training, information, and  
19           support to local educational agencies, schools,  
20           and nonprofit organizations on family engage-  
21           ment in education policies and practices that  
22           are effective for low-income parents and fami-  
23           lies, limited English proficient individuals, mi-  
24           norities, parents of students with disabilities,  
25           parents of homeless students, foster parents

1 and students, parents of migrant students, and  
2 parents of Indian and Native Hawaiian stu-  
3 dents, where applicable.

4 “(D) An assurance that the Statewide  
5 Family Engagement Center will—

6 “(i) be governed by a board of direc-  
7 tors, the membership of which includes  
8 parents of school-aged children;

9 “(ii) have a process for outreach and  
10 consultation with—

11 “(I) parents of children from  
12 birth through young adulthood;

13 “(II) representatives of the State  
14 parent-teacher association;

15 “(III) representatives of edu-  
16 cation professionals with expertise in  
17 improving services for disadvantaged  
18 children;

19 “(IV) representatives of local ele-  
20 mentary schools and secondary  
21 schools, including students, disadvan-  
22 taged youth, and representatives from  
23 local youth organizations; and

1           “(V) representatives of a State  
2 educational agency, a local edu-  
3 cational agency, and an Indian tribe;

4           “(iii) operate a center of sufficient  
5 size, scope, and quality to ensure that the  
6 center is adequate to serve the State edu-  
7 cational agency, local educational agencies,  
8 and community-based organizations;

9           “(iv) serve urban, suburban, and rural  
10 local educational agencies and schools;

11           “(v) work with—

12           “(I) the State educational agen-  
13 cy, local educational agencies (includ-  
14 ing local educational agencies receiv-  
15 ing funds under section 7113), and  
16 schools;

17           “(II) Local Family Engagement  
18 Centers assisted under section 1007;

19           “(III) parent training and infor-  
20 mation centers and community parent  
21 resource centers assisted under sec-  
22 tions 671 and 672 of the Individuals  
23 with Disabilities Education Act; and

24           “(IV) other organizations and  
25 agencies;



1           “(vi) use not less than 20 percent of  
2           the funds received under this section in  
3           each fiscal year to establish or expand  
4           technical assistance for evidence-based  
5           early childhood parent education programs  
6           that focus on successful transition to  
7           school;

8           “(vii) provide assistance to the State  
9           educational agency, local educational agen-  
10          cies, Indian tribes, and community-based  
11          organizations that support family members  
12          in areas such as assistance in under-  
13          standing State and local standards and  
14          measures of student and school academic  
15          achievement and strategies for supporting  
16          school academic achievement;

17          “(viii) work with the State educational  
18          agency, local educational agencies, Indian  
19          tribes, and schools to determine parental  
20          needs and the best means for delivery of  
21          services to address such needs; and

22          “(ix) meet the requirements for  
23          matching funds under subsection (d).

24          “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—A statewide nonprofit organi-  
25          zation that receives a grant under this section shall use

1 the grant funds to provide training, technical assistance,  
2 and capacity-building in coordination with the State edu-  
3 cational agency, local educational agencies, Indian tribes,  
4 and organizations that support family-school partnerships  
5 to—

6           “(1) assist parents in participating effectively in  
7 their children’s education and to help their children  
8 meet State and local standards, such as assisting  
9 parents—

10           “(A) to engage in activities that will im-  
11 prove student academic achievement, including  
12 understanding how they can support learning in  
13 the classroom with activities at home and in  
14 afterschool and extracurricular programs;

15           “(B) to communicate effectively with their  
16 children, teachers, principals, counselors, ad-  
17 ministrators, and other school personnel;

18           “(C) to become active participants in the  
19 development, implementation, and review of  
20 school-parent compacts, family engagement in  
21 education policies, and school planning and im-  
22 provement;

23           “(D) to participate in the design and pro-  
24 vision of assistance to students who are not  
25 making adequate academic progress;

1           “(E) to participate in State and local deci-  
2           sionmaking;

3           “(F) to train other parents; and

4           “(G) to help the parents learn and use  
5           technology applied in their children’s education;

6           “(2) assist the State educational agency in de-  
7           veloping and implementing a statewide family en-  
8           gagement in education policy and systemic initiatives  
9           that will provide for a continuum of services to re-  
10          move barriers for family engagement in education  
11          and support school reform efforts;

12          “(3) assist in the development, implementation,  
13          and assessment of family engagement in education  
14          policies and plans under sections 1112 and 1118;  
15          and

16          “(4) supplement the family engagement activi-  
17          ties under section 7115 and coordinate with the Bu-  
18          reau of Indian Education and Indian tribes to im-  
19          prove family engagement in education policies and  
20          programs, where applicable.

21          “(d) MATCHING FUNDS FOR GRANT RENEWAL.—  
22          For each fiscal year after the first fiscal year for which  
23          a statewide nonprofit organization receives a grant under  
24          this section, the organization shall demonstrate in the ap-  
25          plication that a portion of the services provided by the or-

1 ganization, as determined by the State, is supported  
 2 through non-Federal contributions, which may be in cash  
 3 or in-kind.

4 “(e) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.—Each statewide  
 5 nonprofit organization that receives a grant under this  
 6 section shall submit to the State, on an annual basis, in-  
 7 formation on the activities it has carried out using grant  
 8 funds received under this section, including reporting on  
 9 metrics developed under section 1505 and reporting on the  
 10 recommendations provided by the special advisory com-  
 11 mittee and the actions taken in response to such rec-  
 12 ommendations.

13 “(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
 14 tion shall be construed to prohibit a Statewide Family En-  
 15 gagement Center from—

16 “(1) having its employees or agents meet with  
 17 a parent at a site that is not on school grounds; or

18 “(2) working with another agency that serves  
 19 children.

20 “(g) PARENTAL RIGHTS.—Notwithstanding any  
 21 other provision of this section—

22 “(1) no person (including a parent who edu-  
 23 cates a child at home, a public school parent, or a  
 24 private school parent) shall be required to partici-

1       pate in any program of parent education or develop-  
 2       mental screening under this section; and

3               “(2) no program or center assisted under this  
 4       section shall take any action that infringes in any  
 5       manner on the right of a parent to direct the edu-  
 6       cation of their children.

7       **“SEC. 1007. LOCAL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTERS PRO-**  
 8               **GRAM.**

9               “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to es-  
 10      tablish and operate Local Family Engagement Centers  
 11      and to evaluate the usefulness and effectiveness of innova-  
 12      tive approaches demonstrated by these centers in engaging  
 13      families in their children’s education by providing training,  
 14      services, supports, and opportunities that meet families’  
 15      needs and remove barriers to their engagement in their  
 16      children’s education to improve student achievement.

17              “(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From the funds re-  
 18      served to carry out this section under section 1005(b)(2),  
 19      a State educational agency shall award grants or enter  
 20      into contracts and cooperative agreements with eligible en-  
 21      tities to establish and operate Local Family Engagement  
 22      Centers.

23              “(c) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this sec-  
 24      tion, the State shall give priority to eligible entities that

1 propose to serve communities with the greatest need, as  
2 determined by the State.

3 “(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this section, the term  
4 ‘eligible entity’ means a private, nonprofit organization or  
5 Indian tribe that—

6 “(1) has a demonstrated record of working with  
7 low-income parents and families in the community;

8 “(2) is located in a community with elementary  
9 schools and secondary schools that receive funds  
10 under part A and is accessible to families of stu-  
11 dents in those schools; and

12 “(3) is partnering with 1 or more local edu-  
13 cational agencies or 1 or more schools that receive  
14 funds under part A.

15 “(e) APPLICATION FOR GRANTS.—To receive a grant  
16 under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-  
17 cation to the State educational agency at such time, in  
18 such manner, and accompanied by such information as the  
19 State educational agency may require, including—

20 “(1) a description of the entity’s approach on  
21 family engagement in education, including its use of  
22 strength-based strategies;

23 “(2) information demonstrating that the appli-  
24 cant meets the definition of an eligible entity;

1           “(3) information that the applicant has the ca-  
2           pacity to structure and operate a center of sufficient  
3           scope and quality adequate to serve the needs of the  
4           local area in which it is located;

5           “(4) a description of the entity’s experience in  
6           providing training, services, and support to low-in-  
7           come parents and families, English language learn-  
8           ers, minorities, parents of students with disabilities,  
9           parents of homeless students, foster parents, parents  
10          of Indian and Native Hawaiian students, and par-  
11          ents of migrant students;

12          “(5) a description of the collaboration with the  
13          local educational agency or school personnel in the  
14          area to be served by the center;

15          “(6) a description of the steering committee, a  
16          majority of whose members are parents of students  
17          in schools that receive funds under part A, who will  
18          be targeted for services by the Local Family En-  
19          gagement Center, that will direct and implement the  
20          activities of the Local Family Engagement Center;

21          “(7) a description of how the entity will coordi-  
22          nate its efforts with the Statewide Family Engage-  
23          ment Center;

1           “(8) information that the applicant is capable  
2 of meeting milestones or deadlines as the State edu-  
3 cational agency may prescribe; and

4           “(9) such other information as the State edu-  
5 cational agency determines necessary.

6           “(f) USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that re-  
7 ceives a grant under this section shall establish and oper-  
8 ate a Local Family Engagement Center and use the grant  
9 funds to provide training, services, and supports to engage  
10 families in their children’s education and to build the  
11 school-family partnerships necessary to ensure that all  
12 children are on track to graduate from high school ready  
13 for college and careers, such as through—

14           “(1) assisting parents and families in under-  
15 standing how they can improve student achievement,  
16 including how to access ongoing student perform-  
17 ance data and related information to support learn-  
18 ing in the classroom with activities at home, and in  
19 afterschool and extracurricular activities;

20           “(2) assisting parents and families in sup-  
21 porting on-time graduation, including understanding  
22 early warning indicators that a student is at risk of  
23 not graduating on time;

24           “(3) assisting parents and families in under-  
25 standing how they can prepare their children aca-



1 demically, socially, and financially for postsecondary  
2 education, including early awareness of the avail-  
3 ability of student financial assistance and career and  
4 technical education opportunities;

5 “(4) training parents and families on effective  
6 ongoing communication with their children, teachers,  
7 principals, counselors, administrators, and other  
8 school personnel;

9 “(5) providing direct services to families, such  
10 as home visitation, family literacy programs, and  
11 health and behavioral health services to meet the  
12 needs of families and remove barriers for engaging  
13 in the education of their children;

14 “(6) providing advocacy services to ensure that  
15 families can fully participate in their children’s edu-  
16 cation;

17 “(7) providing supports such as transportation,  
18 childcare, and meals to facilitate family engagement  
19 in education in programs implemented or assisted by  
20 the Center; and

21 “(8) improving the coordination, availability,  
22 and effectiveness of integrated services and com-  
23 prehensive supports for children and families.

24 “(g) EVALUATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.—A State  
25 educational agency shall—

1           “(1) evaluate the effectiveness of the grants  
2 funded under this section and section 1006; and

3           “(2) issue an annual report on the implementa-  
4 tion of such grants, describing any practices the  
5 State determines to be most effective or innovative  
6 for fulfilling the purposes of the Local Family En-  
7 gagement Centers.

8 **“SEC. 1008. STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY CAPACITY FOR**  
9 **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.**

10          “Each State may use funds reserved under section  
11 1005(b)(3) to support the development and implementa-  
12 tion of the statewide family engagement in education plan  
13 described in section 1111(d) through activities such as—

14           “(1) supporting an office or staff positions  
15 within the agency dedicated to family engagement in  
16 education;

17           “(2) carrying out the State’s responsibilities  
18 under sections 1006 and 1007;

19           “(3) developing and implementing a statewide  
20 data collection and evaluation system on family en-  
21 gagement in education metrics to identify schools  
22 that would benefit from training and support related  
23 to family engagement in education;

24           “(4) reviewing local educational agencies’ family  
25 engagement in education policies and practices as

1 provided by sections 1112(b)(1)(P) and 1118(i), and  
2 evaluating the use of funds under this section;

3 “(5) coordinating technical assistance and sup-  
4 port to local educational agencies, including local  
5 educational agencies receiving funds under section  
6 7113, with schools that would benefit from training  
7 and support related to family engagement in edu-  
8 cation;

9 “(6) developing curricula for professional devel-  
10 opment for teachers, principals, school librarians,  
11 and other school leaders on improving family en-  
12 gagement in education;

13 “(7) developing standards and curricula for  
14 family engagement in education in partnership with  
15 teacher and principal preparation programs; and

16 “(8) coordinating statewide services related to  
17 early education, higher education, child health and  
18 welfare, after-school programs, community service-  
19 learning programs, and other programs to develop  
20 coordinated family engagement in education policies,  
21 practices, and services.”.

22 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
23 tents in section 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
24 cation Act of 1965 is amended by inserting after the item  
25 relating to section 1004 the following:

“Sec. 1005. Family engagement and responsibility fund.

“Sec. 1006. Statewide Family Engagement Centers.

“Sec. 1007. Local Family Engagement Centers Program.

“Sec. 1008. State educational agency capacity for family engagement activities.”.

1 **SEC. 6. STATE PLANS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1111(d) (20 U.S.C.  
3 6311(d)) is amended to read as follows:

4 “(d) FAMILY ENGAGEMENT.—Each State plan shall  
5 include a plan for strengthening family engagement in  
6 education. Each such plan shall, at a minimum, include—

7 “(1) a description of the State’s criteria and  
8 schedule for review and approval of local educational  
9 agency family engagement in education policies and  
10 practices pursuant to sections 1112(e)(3) and  
11 1118(i);

12 “(2) a description of the State’s system and  
13 process for assessing local educational agency imple-  
14 mentation of section 1118 responsibilities;

15 “(3) a description of the State’s criteria for  
16 identifying local educational agencies that would  
17 benefit from training and support related to family  
18 engagement in education;

19 “(4) a description of the State’s statewide sys-  
20 tem of technical assistance and support for local  
21 educational agencies and schools on family engage-  
22 ment in education;

1           “(5) an assurance that the State will, when ap-  
2           plicable, refer to the Statewide Family Engagement  
3           Center and the applicable Local Family Engagement  
4           Center those local educational agencies that would  
5           benefit from training and support related to family  
6           engagement in education;

7           “(6) a description of the procedure assuring the  
8           State educational agency will engage in timely, on-  
9           going, and meaningful consultation with representa-  
10          tives of Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian edu-  
11          cational organizations located in the State in the de-  
12          velopment of the State plan to serve local edu-  
13          cational agencies under its jurisdiction in order to  
14          improve the coordination of activities under this Act,  
15          to meet the purpose of this title, to meet the unique  
16          cultural, language, and educational needs of Indian  
17          and Native Hawaiian students, and to improve im-  
18          plementation of family engagement in education pro-  
19          grams and services for parents of Indian and Native  
20          Hawaiian students;

21          “(7) a plan for using funds reserved under sec-  
22          tion 1005; and

23          “(8) a description of the relationship, as appli-  
24          cable, between the State educational agency and  
25          Statewide and Local Family Engagement Centers,

1 parent training and information centers, and com-  
2 munity parent resource centers in the State estab-  
3 lished under sections 671 and 672 of the Individuals  
4 with Disabilities Education Act.”.

5 (b) REPORTS.—

6 (1) ANNUAL STATE REPORT.—Section  
7 1111(h)(4) (20 U.S.C. 6311(h)(4)) is amended—

8 (A) in subparagraph (F), by striking  
9 “and” after the semicolon;

10 (B) in subparagraph (G), by striking the  
11 period at the end and inserting a semicolon;  
12 and

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

14 “(H) the number of schools and the name  
15 of each school that would benefit from training  
16 and support related to family engagement in  
17 education, the reason why such school was so  
18 identified, and the measures taken to address  
19 the need for training and support; and

20 “(I) information on the State educational  
21 agency’s family engagement in education pro-  
22 grams and activities.”.

23 (2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 1111(j)  
24 (20 U.S.C. 6311(j)) is amended by inserting “the  
25 development and implementation of policies and pro-

1       cedures for family engagement in education,” after  
2       “reliable,”.

3 **SEC. 7. LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY PLANS.**

4       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1112(b)(1)(P) (20 U.S.C.  
5 6312(b)(1)(P)) is amended to read as follows:

6               “(P) a description of the strategy the local  
7       educational agency will use to implement and  
8       assess family engagement in education under  
9       section 1118;”.

10       (b) ENGAGEMENT IN DEVELOPING PLANS.—Section  
11 1112(b)(1) (20 U.S.C. 6312(b)(1)) is amended—

12               (1) by redesignating subparagraph (Q) as sub-  
13       paragraph (T); and

14               (2) by inserting after subparagraph (P) the fol-  
15       lowing:

16               “(Q) a description of how the local edu-  
17       cational agency will engage families in the de-  
18       velopment, implementation, and assessment of  
19       local educational agency plans;

20               “(R) a description of how the local edu-  
21       cational agency will improve teacher and prin-  
22       cipal knowledge and skills in effectively engag-  
23       ing parents in their children’s education;

24               “(S) a description of the procedure assur-  
25       ing the local educational agency will engage in

1           timely, on-going, and meaningful consultation  
2           with representatives of Indian tribes and Native  
3           Hawaiian educational organizations located in  
4           the area served by the local educational agency  
5           in the development of the local plan in order to  
6           improve the coordination of activities under this  
7           Act, to meet the purpose of this title, to meet  
8           the unique cultural, language, and educational  
9           needs of Indian students and Native Hawaiian  
10          students, and to improve implementation of  
11          family engagement in education programs and  
12          services for parents of Indian and Native Ha-  
13          waiian students; and”.

14 **SEC. 8. FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION POLICY.**

15           (a) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY DEVELOPMENT  
16 OF POLICIES AND PRACTICES.—Section 1118 (20 U.S.C.  
17 6318) is amended—

18           (1) by redesignating subsections (a) through (h)  
19           as subsections (b) through (i), respectively; and

20           (2) by inserting before subsection (b), as redес-  
21           ignated by paragraph (1), the following:

22           “(a) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational agency  
23 and each school receiving funds under this part shall de-  
24 velop policies and practices for family engagement in edu-



1 cation that meet the following principles and standards for  
2 family-school partnerships:

3           “(1) Welcome all families to be active partici-  
4 pants in the life of the school, so that they feel val-  
5 ued and connected to each other, school staff, and  
6 what students are learning in class.

7           “(2) Communicate effectively by ensuring reg-  
8 ular two-way, meaningful communication between  
9 family members and local educational agency and  
10 school staff in a manner, language, and with tech-  
11 nology that family members can understand and ac-  
12 cess.

13           “(3) Support student success by fostering con-  
14 tinuous collaboration between family members and  
15 local educational agency and school staff to support  
16 student learning and healthy development at school  
17 and at home.

18           “(4) Speak up for every child and empower  
19 family members to be advocates for all students  
20 within the school.

21           “(5) Ensure that family members, local edu-  
22 cational agencies, and school staff are equal partners  
23 in family engagement in education decisionmaking.

1           “(6) Collaborate with community organizations  
2           and groups to turn the school into a hub of commu-  
3           nity life.

4           “(7) Create a continuum of family engagement  
5           in education in student learning and development  
6           from birth to young adulthood.

7           “(8) Train and support superintendents, prin-  
8           cipals, and teachers to fully engage families in the  
9           education of their children.”.

10          (b) WRITTEN POLICY.—Section 1118(b)(2), as reded-  
11          ignated by subsection (a), is amended—

12                 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “sub-  
13                 section (e)” and inserting “subsection (f)”;

14                 (2) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and”  
15                 after the semicolon;

16                 (3) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period  
17                 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

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

19                         “(G) participate in evaluations of the effec-  
20                         tiveness of family engagement in education  
21                         strategies and policies; and

22                         “(H) participate in developing rec-  
23                         ommendations for creating a positive school cli-  
24                         mate and safe and healthy schools.”.

1 (c) RESERVATION.—Section 1118(b)(3)(A), as redese-  
 2 ignated by subsection (a), is amended to read as follows:

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational  
 4 agency shall reserve not less than 2 percent of  
 5 its allocation under subpart 2 to carry out this  
 6 section, except that this subparagraph shall not  
 7 apply if 2 percent of such agency’s allocation  
 8 under subpart 2 for the fiscal year for which  
 9 the determination is made is \$10,000 or less.”.

10 (d) DISTRIBUTION.—Section 1118(b)(3)(C), as re-  
 11 designated by subsection (a), is amended to read as fol-  
 12 lows:

13 “(C) DISTRIBUTION.—Not less than 75  
 14 percent of the funds reserved under subpara-  
 15 graph (A) shall be distributed to schools served  
 16 under this part.”.

17 (e) RESERVED FUNDS.—Section 1118(b)(3), as re-  
 18 designated by subsection (a), is amended—

19 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and  
 20 (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively; and

21 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the fol-  
 22 lowing:

23 “(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds reserved  
 24 under subparagraph (A) may be used for the  
 25 following:

1           “(i) Increasing capacity through es-  
2           tablishment of a dedicated office or dedi-  
3           cated personnel within the local edu-  
4           cational agency or at the school level for  
5           family engagement in education.

6           “(ii) Supporting schools and nonprofit  
7           organizations in providing professional de-  
8           velopment on family engagement in edu-  
9           cation for school staff, parent leadership  
10          training, family literacy and numeracy pro-  
11          grams, home visitation programs, family  
12          volunteerism programs, and other innova-  
13          tive programs that meaningfully engage  
14          families.

15          “(iii) Developing and implementing  
16          local educational agency family engage-  
17          ment in education data-collection systems  
18          and indicators.

19          “(iv) Providing technical assistance  
20          and training to schools on the implementa-  
21          tion and assessment of family engagement  
22          in education policies and practices.

23          “(v) Providing additional support to  
24          schools that have been identified for im-  
25          provement under section 1116(b) to assist

1 in their implementation of family engage-  
2 ment in education, including the hiring  
3 and maintenance of family engagement in  
4 education coordinators.

5 “(vi) Partnering with the Statewide  
6 Family Engagement Center and the appli-  
7 cable Local Family Engagement Centers or  
8 community-based organizations to identify  
9 community resources, services, and sup-  
10 ports to remove economic obstacles to fam-  
11 ily engagement in education by meeting  
12 families’ needs.

13 “(vii) Supporting schools and eligible  
14 entities in the development and implemen-  
15 tation of research-based family practices in  
16 programs that emphasize the importance  
17 of family engagement in education, includ-  
18 ing—

19 “(I) successful transitions from  
20 early learning to kindergarten through  
21 grade 12 settings;

22 “(II) improved understanding of  
23 and shared responsibility for student  
24 success;

1                   “(III) use of student and school  
2 data;

3                   “(IV) importance of open, effec-  
4 tive communication between schools  
5 and families;

6                   “(V) early warning indicators  
7 that a student is at risk of not grad-  
8 uating on time;

9                   “(VI) parent and community ad-  
10 vocacy to increase parent participa-  
11 tion; and

12                   “(VII) improved understanding  
13 of the parents’ role in academic, so-  
14 cial, and financial preparation for  
15 postsecondary education, including ca-  
16 reer and technical education.

17                   “(viii) Assisting schools in the devel-  
18 opment, implementation, and assessment  
19 of family engagement in education plans.

20                   “(ix) Monitoring and evaluating the  
21 family engagement in education policies  
22 and practices funded under this section.

23                   “(x) Supporting other activities ap-  
24 proved in the local educational agency’s

1                   plan for improving family engagement in  
2                   education.”.

3           (f) SCHOOL PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY.—  
4 Section 1118(c)(1), as redesignated by subsection (a), is  
5 amended in the first sentence by striking “subsections (c)  
6 through (f)” and inserting “subsections (d) through (g)”.

7           (g) SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIGH STUDENT  
8 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.—Section 1118(e), as redesi-  
9 gnated by subsection (a), is amended—

10           (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by  
11 striking “subsection (b)” and inserting “subsection  
12 (c)”; and

13           (2) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the  
14 following:

15           “(1) describe the school’s responsibility to—

16                   “(A) provide high-quality curriculum and  
17 instruction in a supportive and effective learn-  
18 ing environment that enables the children  
19 served under this part to meet the State’s stu-  
20 dent academic achievement standards, and the  
21 ways in which each parent will support their  
22 children’s learning, such as—

23                           “(i) monitoring attendance and home-  
24 work completion;

1                   “(ii) volunteering in their child’s  
2                   classroom or school; and

3                   “(iii) participating, as appropriate, in  
4                   decisions relating to the education of their  
5                   children and positive use of extracurricular  
6                   time; and

7                   “(B) engage family members in the devel-  
8                   opment of recommendations for student attend-  
9                   ance, expectations, behavior, and school safety,  
10                  including the development of reasonable dis-  
11                  ciplinary policies and behavioral interventions,  
12                  such as the implementation of school-wide posi-  
13                  tive behavior interventions and supports and  
14                  the phase-out of out-of-school suspension and  
15                  expulsion; and”.

16 **SEC. 9. PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS FOR**  
17 **CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO ARE NE-**  
18 **GLECTED, DELINQUENT, OR AT RISK.**

19           (a) STATE PLAN AND STATE AGENCY APPLICA-  
20 TIONS.—Section 1414 (20 U.S.C. 6434) is amended—

21                   (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

22                           (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
23                           “and” after the semicolon;

24                           (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as  
25                           subparagraph (D); and



1 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
2 the following:

3 “(C) that contains an assurance that each  
4 child or youth serviced by the program will have  
5 a transition plan developed in partnership with  
6 families and aftercare providers that will place  
7 the child or youth on a path to career and col-  
8 lege readiness; and”;  
9 (2) in subsection (c)—

10 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (15)  
11 through (19) as paragraphs (17) through (21),  
12 respectively; and

13 (B) by inserting after paragraph (14) the  
14 following:

15 “(15) describes how the State agency will im-  
16 plement family engagement in education policies and  
17 practices that align with section 1118;

18 “(16) includes an assurance that the State  
19 agency will establish, for each child or youth served  
20 under this subpart, an educational services and tran-  
21 sition plan that is developed in consultation with the  
22 child or youth, family members of the child or youth,  
23 and the local educational agency or alternative edu-  
24 cation program that will receive the child or youth

1 following their period of service under this sub-  
2 part;”.

3 (b) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY APPLICATIONS.—

4 Section 1423 (20 U.S.C. 6453) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through  
6 (13) as paragraphs (11) through (15), respectively;  
7 and

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

10 “(9) a description of how schools will implement  
11 family engagement in education policies and prac-  
12 tices that align with the provisions of section 1118;

13 “(10) an assurance that the local educational  
14 agency will establish for each child or youth served  
15 under this subpart an educational services plan that  
16 is developed in consultation with the child or youth,  
17 family members of the child or youth, and the local  
18 educational agency or alternative education program  
19 receiving the child or youth following their period of  
20 service under this subpart;”.

21 (c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR CORRECTIONAL  
22 FACILITIES RECEIVING FUNDS UNDER THIS SECTION.—

23 Section 1425 (20 U.S.C. 6455) is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (10), by striking “and” after  
25 the semicolon;

1           (2) by striking the period at the end of para-  
2 graph (11) and inserting a semicolon; and

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

4           “(12) prepare an educational services and tran-  
5 sition plan for each child or youth served by the pro-  
6 gram, in partnership with families and aftercare pro-  
7 viders, consistent with section 1414(a)(1)(C); and

8           “(13) establish for each child or youth residing  
9 in the facility and serviced by this subpart an edu-  
10 cational services and transition plan that is devel-  
11 oped in consultation with the child or youth, family  
12 members of the child or youth, and the local edu-  
13 cational agency or alternative education program re-  
14 ceiving the child or youth following their period of  
15 service under this subpart.”.

16 **SEC. 10. RESEARCH AND EVALUATION FOR FAMILY EN-**  
17 **GAGEMENT IN EDUCATION.**

18           (a) IN GENERAL.—Part E of title I (20 U.S.C. 6491  
19 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

20 **“SEC. 1505. RESEARCH AND EVALUATION FOR FAMILY EN-**  
21 **GAGEMENT IN EDUCATION.**

22           “(a) DEVELOPMENT OF METRICS FOR FAMILY EN-  
23 GAGEMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of en-  
24 actment of the Family Engagement in Education Act of  
25 2015 the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences,

1 after consultation with the advisory committee established  
2 under subsection (b), shall develop recommended metrics  
3 on family engagement in education for State educational  
4 agencies that reserve funds under section 1005 and local  
5 educational agencies that reserve funds under section  
6 1118 and provide recommendations on the integration of  
7 metrics into State accountability and longitudinal data  
8 systems.

9       “(b) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Secretary shall  
10 appoint an advisory committee, including researchers and  
11 representatives from national nonprofit organizations with  
12 expertise in family engagement in education, to make  
13 data-driven recommendations regarding metrics required  
14 under subsection (a).

15       “(c) RESEARCH FOR EFFECTIVE FAMILY ENGAGE-  
16 MENT IN EDUCATION.—From funds appropriated to carry  
17 out this subpart, the Secretary shall conduct research on  
18 effective family engagement in education, including  
19 through awarding grants and entering into contracts with  
20 eligible entities. Such research may include—

21               “(1) exploratory research to discover the under-  
22 lying processes or components of family engagement  
23 in education programs that are associated with im-  
24 proved education outcomes for students;

25               “(2) research to—

1           “(A) develop culturally sensitive strategies  
2           or programs for improving family engagement  
3           in education; and

4           “(B) rigorously evaluate the impact of  
5           such strategies or programs on students’ edu-  
6           cation outcomes; and

7           “(3) research to—

8           “(A) develop professional development pro-  
9           grams intended to enable school personnel to  
10          support parental involvement in education; and

11          “(B) rigorously evaluate the impact of  
12          such programs on students’ education out-  
13          comes.”.

14          (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in  
15          section 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
16          of 1965 is amended by inserting after the item relating  
17          to section 1504 the following:

          “Sec. 1505. Research and evaluation for family engagement in education.”.

18          **SEC. 11. HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS.**

19          (a) STATE APPLICATION CONTENTS.—Section  
20          2112(b) (20 U.S.C. 6612(b)) is amended by adding at the  
21          end the following:

22          “(13) A description of how the State edu-  
23          cational agency will improve teacher and principal  
24          knowledge and skill in effectively engaging families  
25          in their children’s education.”.

1 (b) STATE ACTIVITIES.—Section 2113(c) (20 U.S.C.  
2 6613(c)) is amended—

3 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (12) through  
4 (18) as paragraphs (13) through (19), respectively;  
5 and

6 (2) by inserting after paragraph (11) the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 “(12) Training of teachers and principals on  
9 how to effectively engage families in their children’s  
10 education.”.

11 **SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.**

12 Section 9101 (20 U.S.C. 7801) is amended—

13 (1) by striking paragraph (32);

14 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (20) through  
15 (31) as paragraphs (21) through (32), respectively;  
16 and

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

19 “(20) FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION.—  
20 The term ‘family engagement in education’ means a  
21 shared responsibility—

22 “(A) of families and schools for student  
23 success, in which schools and community-based  
24 organizations are committed to reaching out to  
25 engage families in meaningful ways and families

1 are committed to actively supporting their chil-  
2 dren’s learning and development; and

3 “(B) that is continuous from birth through  
4 young adulthood and reinforces learning that  
5 takes place in the home, school, and commu-  
6 nity.”.

7 **SEC. 13. REPEAL OF PARENTAL ASSISTANCE AND LOCAL**  
8 **FAMILY INFORMATION CENTERS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part D of title V of the Elemen-  
10 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
11 7241 et seq.) is amended—

12 (1) by striking subpart 16; and

13 (2) by redesignating subparts 17, 18, 19, 20,  
14 and 21, as subparts 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20, respec-  
15 tively.

16 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in  
17 section 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
18 of 1965 is amended—

19 (1) by striking the item relating to subpart 16  
20 of part D of title V;

21 (2) by striking the items relating to sections  
22 5561, 5562, 5563, 5564, 5565, and 5566; and

23 (3) by redesignating the items relating to sub-  
24 parts 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 of part D of title V,

1 as subparts 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 of part D of title  
2 V, respectively.

3 **SEC. 14. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

4 The Act (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by  
5 striking—

6 (1) “parental involvement” and “parent involve-  
7 ment” each place the terms appear and inserting  
8 “family engagement in education”;

9 (2) “involvement of parents” each place the  
10 term appears and inserting “engagement of fami-  
11 lies”;

12 (3) “parental information and resource center”  
13 each place the term appears and inserting “State-  
14 wide Family Engagement Center”;

15 (4) “parental information and resource centers”  
16 each place the term appears and inserting “State-  
17 wide Family Engagement Centers”; and

18 (5) “involve parents” each place the term ap-  
19 pears and inserting “engage families”.

20 **SEC. 15. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE STUDY**  
21 **AND REPORT.**

22 (a) STUDY.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of  
24 the United States shall conduct a study, and make  
25 findings and recommendations relating to compli-



1       ance with, and use of funds made available for, sec-  
2       tion 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
3       cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6318), including mat-  
4       ters specified in paragraph (2).

5               (2) INCLUSIONS.—The study shall include a re-  
6       view and analysis of—

7                       (A) the use of funds reserved by local edu-  
8       cational agencies for family engagement in edu-  
9       cation under such section 1118;

10                      (B) the innovative, effective, replicable, or  
11       model family engagement in education policies,  
12       practices, and uses of funds of State edu-  
13       cational agencies and local educational agencies  
14       determined by the Secretary of Education to be  
15       in alignment with section 1118;

16                      (C) any barriers to State educational agen-  
17       cies and local educational agencies in imple-  
18       menting section 1118;

19                      (D) any barriers to Indian tribes and Na-  
20       tive Hawaiian educational organizations in de-  
21       veloping, implementing, and assessing family  
22       engagement in education policies and practices;  
23       and

24                      (E) the use of data collection and report-  
25       ing and outcome and assessment systems of

1 State educational agencies and local educational  
2 agencies to determine the extent to which fam-  
3 ily engagement in education is implemented as  
4 described in section 1118.

5 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the  
6 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
7 of the United States shall prepare and submit to the Com-  
8 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the  
9 Senate and the Committee on Education and the Work-  
10 force of the House of Representatives a report containing  
11 the findings and recommendations resulting from the  
12 study conducted under this section.

○