

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1160

AN ACT

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
to increase support for mental health.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Family
3 Mental Health in CAPTA Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION
5 AND TREATMENT ACT.**

6 (a) NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE.—Section 103(b) of
7 the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.
8 5104(b)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “effective pro-
10 grams,” and inserting “evidence-based and evidence-
11 informed programs,”;

12 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through
13 (9) as paragraphs (6) through (10), respectively;
14 and

15 (3) by inserting after paragraph (4), the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(5) maintain and disseminate, as appropriate,
18 information that describes best practices for making
19 appropriate referrals related to, and addressing, the
20 health, mental health, and developmental needs of
21 victims of child abuse or neglect;”.

22 (b) RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES.—Sec-
23 tion 104 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment
24 Act (42 U.S.C. 5105) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (a)—

26 (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) by striking subparagraph (F) and
2 inserting the following:

3 “(F) effective approaches to interagency
4 collaboration between the child welfare protec-
5 tion system, the juvenile justice system, and
6 other relevant agencies engaged with children
7 and families that improve the delivery of serv-
8 ices and treatment (including related to domes-
9 tic violence, mental health, or substance use dis-
10 orders) for continuity of treatment plan and
11 services as children transition between sys-
12 tems;”;

13 (ii) by redesignating subparagraphs
14 (N) and (O) as subparagraphs (P) and
15 (Q), respectively;

16 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph
17 (M) the following:

18 “(N) methods to address geographic, ra-
19 cial, and cultural disparities in the child welfare
20 system, including a focus on access to services;

21 “(O) evidence-based and evidence-informed
22 programs to prevent child abuse and neglect in
23 families that have not had contact with the
24 child welfare system;” and

1 (iv) in subparagraph (P), as redesignig-
2 nated by clause (ii), by striking “subpara-
3 graph (O)” and inserting “subparagraph
4 (Q)”; and

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “para-
6 graph (1)(O)” and inserting “paragraph
7 (1)(Q)”; and

8 (2) in subsection (b)—

9 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and
10 (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

11 (B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
12 following:

13 “(2) CONTENT.—The technical assistance
14 under paragraph (1) shall be designed to, as applica-
15 ble, promote best practices for addressing child
16 abuse and neglect in families with complex needs,
17 such as families who have experienced domestic vio-
18 lence, substance use disorders, and adverse child-
19 hood experiences.”; and

20 (C) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated—

21 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking
22 “and” after the semicolon;

23 (ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking
24 the period at the end and inserting “;
25 and”; and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(E) ways to reduce geographic, racial,
4 and cultural disparities in the child protection
5 system, which may include engaging law en-
6 forcement, education, health, and other relevant
7 systems in such efforts.”.

8 (c) GRANTS TO STATES.—Section 106 of the Child
9 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a)
10 is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) in paragraph (6)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking
14 “and” after the semicolon; and

15 (ii) by striking subparagraph (D) and
16 inserting the following:

17 “(D) training in early childhood, child, and
18 adolescent development and the impact of child
19 abuse and neglect, and the long-term impacts of
20 adverse childhood experiences; and

21 “(E) training to improve coordination
22 among child protective service agencies, entities
23 providing health care services (including mental
24 health and substance use disorder services), and
25 community resources, for purposes of con-

1 ducting evaluations related to substantiated
2 cases of child abuse or neglect; and

3 “(F) training regarding the links between
4 child abuse and neglect and domestic violence,
5 and approaches to working with families with
6 mental health needs or substance use dis-
7 order;”.

8 (d) APPLICATION.—Section 204(7) of the Child
9 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.
10 5116d(7)) is amended to read as follows:

11 “(7) a description of the criteria that the entity
12 will use to—

13 “(A) select and fund local programs, and
14 how the lead entity will take into consideration
15 the local program’s ability to—

16 “(i) collaborate with other community-
17 based organizations and service providers
18 and engage in long-term and strategic
19 planning with respect to community-based
20 and prevention-focused programs and ac-
21 tivities designed to strengthen and support
22 families to prevent child abuse and neglect;

23 “(ii) meaningfully partner with par-
24 ents in the development, implementation,
25 oversight, and evaluation of services;

1 “(iii) reduce barriers to access to com-
2 munity-based and prevention-focused pro-
3 grams and activities designed to strength-
4 en and support families to prevent child
5 abuse and neglect, including for diverse,
6 underserved, and at-risk populations; or

7 “(B) develop or provide community-based
8 and prevention-focused programs and activities
9 designed to strengthen and support families to
10 prevent child abuse and neglect, and provide a
11 description of how such activities are evidence-
12 based or evidence-informed;”.

13 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

14 The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42
15 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) is amended—

16 (1) in section 3, by amending paragraph (5) to
17 read as follows:

18 “(5) the terms ‘Indian’, ‘Indian Tribe’, and
19 ‘Tribal organization’ have the meanings given the
20 terms ‘Indian’, ‘Indian tribe’, and ‘tribal organiza-
21 tion’, respectively, in section 4 of the Indian Self-De-
22 termination and Education Assistance Act (25
23 U.S.C. 450b);”;

1 (2) by striking “tribe” each place such term ap-
2 pears (other than in section 3(5)) and inserting
3 “Tribe”; and

4 (3) by striking “tribal” each place such term
5 appears (other than in section 3(5)) and inserting
6 “Tribal”.

Passed the Senate September 17, 2020.

Attest:

Secretary.

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