H. R. 9076

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

September 19, 2024 Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT

To reauthorize child welfare programs under part B of title IV of the Social Security Act and strengthen the State and tribal child support enforcement program under part D of such title, and for other purposes.

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

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

- 2 This Act may be cited as the "Supporting America's
- 3 Children and Families Act".

4 TITLE I—CHILD WELFARE REAU-

5 THORIZATION AND MOD-

6 ERNIZATION

- 7 SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.
- 8 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the
- 9 "Protecting America's Children by Strengthening Fami-
- 10 lies Act".
- 11 (b) References.—Except as otherwise expressly
- 12 provided, wherever in this title an amendment or repeal
- 13 is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of,
- 14 a section or other provision, the reference shall be consid-
- 15 ered to be made to that section or other provision of the
- 16 Social Security Act.
- 17 SEC. 102. TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 18 The table of contents of this title is as follows:
 - Sec. 101. Short title; references.
 - Sec. 102. Table of contents.
 - Sec. 103. Reauthorization of child welfare programs.
 - Sec. 104. Enhancements to the court improvement program.
 - Sec. 105. Expanding regional partnership grants to address parental substance use disorder as cause of child removal.
 - Sec. 106. Modernization; reducing administrative burden.
 - Sec. 107. Streamlining funding for Indian tribes.
 - Sec. 108. Accelerating access to Family First prevention services.
 - Sec. 109. Strengthening support for youth aging out of foster care.
 - Sec. 110. Recognizing the importance of relative and kinship caregivers.
 - Sec. 111. Avoiding neglect by addressing poverty.
 - Sec. 112. Strengthening support for caseworkers.
 - Sec. 113. Demonstration projects for improving relationships between incarcerated parents and children in foster care.

- Sec. 114. Guidance to States on improving data collection and reporting for youth in residential treatment programs.
- Sec. 115. Streamlining research, training, and technical assistance funding.
- Sec. 116. Report on post adoption and subsidized guardianship services.
- Sec. 117. Effective date.

SEC. 103. REAUTHORIZATION OF CHILD WELFARE PRO-

- GRAMS.
- 3 (a) Reauthorization of Subpart 1; Discre-
- 4 TIONARY FUNDING.—Section 425 (42 U.S.C. 625) is
- 5 amended by striking "2017 through 2023" and inserting
- 6 "2025 through 2029".
- 7 (b) Reauthorization of Subpart 2; Enhanced
- 8 Support.—Section 436(a) (42 U.S.C. 629f(a)) is amend-
- 9 ed by striking "each of fiscal years 2017 through 2023"
- 10 and inserting "fiscal year 2025 and \$420,000,000 for
- 11 each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029".
- 12 (c) Reauthorization of Subpart 2; Discre-
- 13 TIONARY FUNDING.—Section 437(a) (42 U.S.C. 629g(a))
- 14 is amended by striking "2017 through 2023" and insert-
- 15 ing "2025 through 2029".
- 16 (d) Funding Limitation.—Section 423(a)(2)(A)
- 17 (42 U.S.C. 623(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting ", not
- 18 to exceed \$10,000,000" before the semicolon.
- 19 SEC. 104. ENHANCEMENTS TO THE COURT IMPROVEMENT
- 20 **PROGRAM.**
- 21 (a) Increase in Reservation of Funds.—Section
- 22 436(b)(2) (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(2)) is amended by inserting

1	"for fiscal year 2025 and \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2026
2	and each succeeding fiscal year" before "for grants".
3	(b) Extension of State Match Requirement.—
4	Section 438(d) (42 U.S.C. 629h(d)) is amended by strik-
5	ing "2017 through 2023" and inserting "2025 through
6	2029".
7	(c) Program Improvements.—Section 438(a) (42
8	U.S.C. 629h(a)) is amended—
9	(1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end the
10	following:
11	"(F) that determine the appropriateness
12	and best practices for use of technology to con-
13	duct remote hearings, subject to participant
14	consent, including to ensure maximum partici-
15	pation of individuals involved in proceedings
16	and to enable courts to maintain operations in
17	times of public health or other emergencies;";
18	(2) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking "per-
19	sonnel." and inserting "personnel and supporting
20	optimal use of remote hearing technology; and"; and
21	(3) by adding at the end the following:
22	"(3) to ensure continuity of needed court serv-
23	ices, prevent disruption of the services, and enable
24	their recovery from threats such as public health cri-

1	ses, natural disasters or cyberattacks, including
2	through—
3	"(A) support for technology that allows
4	court proceedings to occur remotely subject to
5	participant consent, including hearings and
6	legal representation;
7	"(B) the development of guidance and pro-
8	tocols for responding to the occurrences and co-
9	ordinating with other agencies; and
10	"(C) other activities carried out to ensure
11	backup systems are in place.".
12	(d) Implementation Guidance on Sharing Best
13	PRACTICES FOR TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES NEEDED FOR
14	REMOTE COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR FOSTER CARE OR
15	Adoption.—Section 438 (42 U.S.C. 629h) is amended by
16	adding at the end the following:
17	"(e) Guidance.—
18	"(1) In General.—Every 5 years, the Sec-
19	retary shall issue implementation guidance for shar-
20	ing information on best practices for—
21	"(A) technological changes needed for
22	court proceedings for foster care, guardianship,
23	or adoption to be conducted remotely in a way
24	that maximizes engagement and protects the
25	privacy of participants; and

1	"(B) the manner in which the proceedings
2	should be conducted.
3	"(2) Initial Issuance.—The Secretary shall
4	issue initial guidance required by paragraph (1) with
5	preliminary information on best practices not later
6	than October 1, 2025.
7	"(3) Additional consultation.—The Sec-
8	retary shall consult with Indian tribes on the devel-
9	opment of appropriate guidelines for State court
10	proceedings involving Indian children to maximize
11	engagement of Indian tribes and provide appropriate
12	guidelines on conducting State court proceedings
13	subject to the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (25
14	U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).".
15	SEC. 105. EXPANDING REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS
16	TO ADDRESS PARENTAL SUBSTANCE USE DIS-
17	ORDER AS CAUSE OF CHILD REMOVAL.
18	(a) Increase in Reservation of Funds.—Section
19	436(b)(5) (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(5)) is amended by striking
20	"each of fiscal years 2017 through 2023" and inserting
21	"fiscal year 2025 and $\$30,000,000$ for fiscal year 2026
22	and each succeeding fiscal year".
23	(b) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 437(f) (42 U.S.C.
24	629g(f)) is amended—
25	(1) in paragraph (3)(A)—

1	(A) by striking "In addition to amounts
2	authorized to be appropriated to carry out this
3	section, the" and inserting "The"; and
4	(B) by striking "2017 through 2023" and
5	inserting "2025 through 2029"; and
6	(2) in paragraph (10), by striking "for each of
7	fiscal years 2017 through 2023".
8	(c) Authority to Waive Planning Phase.—Sec-
9	tion $437(f)(3)(B)(iii)$ (42 U.S.C. $629g(f)(3)(B)(iii)$) is
10	amended—
11	(1) by striking all that precedes "grant award-
12	ed" and inserting the following:
13	"(iii) Sufficient planning.—
14	"(I) IN GENERAL.—A"; and
15	(2) by striking "may not exceed \$250,000,
16	and"; and
17	(3) by adding after and below the end the fol-
18	lowing:
19	"(II) Exception.—The Sec-
20	retary, on a case-by-case basis, may
21	waive the planning phase for a part-
22	nership that demonstrates that the
23	partnership has engaged in sufficient
24	planning before submitting an appli-

1	cation for a grant under this sub-
2	section.".
3	(d) Expanding Availability of Evidence-based
4	Services.—
5	(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 437(f)(1) (42 U.S.C.
6	629g(f)(1)) is amended by inserting ", and expand
7	the scope of the evidence-based services that may be
8	approved by the clearinghouse established under sec-
9	tion 476(d)" before the period.
10	(2) Considerations for awarding
11	GRANTS.—Section $437(f)(7)$ (42 U.S.C. $629g(f)(7)$)
12	is amended—
13	(A) by striking "and" at the end of sub-
14	paragraph (D);
15	(B) by striking the period at the end of
16	subparagraph (E) and inserting "; and"; and
17	(C) by adding at the end the following:
18	"(F) have submitted information pursuant
19	to paragraph (4)(F) that demonstrates the ca-
20	pability to participate in rigorous evaluation of
21	program effectiveness.".
22	(e) Technical Assistance on Using Regional
23	PARTNERSHIP GRANT FUNDS IN COORDINATION WITH
24	OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS TO BETTER SERVE FAMILIES

1	AFFECTED BY A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.—Section
2	435(d) (42 U.S.C. 629e(d)) is amended—
3	(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph
4	(4);
5	(2) by striking the period at the end of para-
6	graph (5) and inserting "; and"; and
7	(3) by adding at the end the following:
8	"(6) use grants under section 437(f) in coordi-
9	nation with other Federal funds to better serve fami-
10	lies in the child welfare system that are affected by
11	a substance use disorder.".
12	(f) Performance Indicators.—Section
13	437(f)(8)(A) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(8)(A)) is amended in the
14	1st sentence—
15	(1) by striking "this subsection" the 1st place
16	it appears and inserting "the Protecting America's
17	Children by Strengthening Families Act";
18	(2) by inserting "child permanency, reunifica-
19	tion, re-entry into care," before "parental recovery";
20	and
21	(3) by inserting ", and access to services for
22	families with substance use disorder, including those
23	with children who are overrepresented in foster care,
24	difficult to place, or have disproportionately low per-
25	manency rates" before the period.

```
1
        (g) Performance Indicator Consultation Re-
 2
    QUIRED.—Section
                           437(f)(8)(B)
                                             (42)
                                                      U.S.C.
 3
    629g(f)(8)(B)) is amended by redesignating clause (iii) as
 4
    clause (iv) and inserting after clause (ii) the following:
 5
                       "(iii) The Administrator of the Na-
 6
                  tional Institute on Drug Abuse.".
 7
        (h) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 437(f)(9)(B)
 8
    (42 \text{ U.S.C. } 629g(f)(9)(B)) is amended—
 9
             (1) by striking "and" at the end of clause (ii);
10
             (2) by striking the period at the end of clause
11
        (iii) and inserting "; and"; and
12
             (3) by adding at the end the following:
13
                       "(iv) whether any programs funded by
14
                  the grants were submitted to the clearing-
15
                  house established under section 476(d) for
16
                  review and the results of any such re-
17
                  view.".
18
        (i) Priority for Statewide Service Growth.—
19
    Section 437(f)(7) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(7)), as amended by
20
    subsection (d)(2) of this section, is amended—
             (1) by striking "and" at the end of subpara-
21
22
        graph (E);
23
             (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-
24
        paragraph (F) and inserting "; and; and
25
             (3) by adding at the end the following:
```

1	"(G) are a State or public agency, or out-
2	line a plan to increase the availability of serv-
3	ices funded under the grant statewide.".
4	(j) Addition of Juvenile Court as Required
5	Partner.—Section 437(f)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C.
6	629g(f)(2)(A)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7	lowing:
8	"(iii) The most appropriate adminis-
9	trative office of the juvenile court or State
10	court overseeing court proceedings involv-
11	ing families who come to the attention of
12	the court due to child abuse or neglect.".
13	(k) Additional Optional Partner.—Section
14	437(f)(2)(C) (42 U.S.C. $629g(f)(2)(C)$) is amended by re-
15	designating clause (ix) as clause (x) and inserting after
16	clause (viii) the following:
17	"(ix) State or local agencies that ad-
18	minister Federal health care, housing, fam-
19	ily support, or other related programs.".
20	(l) Conforming Amendments.—
21	(1) Section $437(f)(2)(D)$ (42 U.S.C.
22	629g(f)(2)(D)) is amended—
23	(A) by adding "and" at the end of clause
24	(j):

1	(B) by striking "; and" at the end of
2	clause (ii) and inserting a period; and
3	(C) by striking clause (iii).
4	(2) Section $437(f)(2)$ (42 U.S.C. $629g(f)(2)$) is
5	amended by striking subparagraph (B) and redesig-
6	nating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs
7	(B) and (C), respectively
8	SEC. 106. MODERNIZATION; REDUCING ADMINISTRATIVE
9	BURDEN.
10	(a) In General.—Section 431 (42 U.S.C. 629a) is
11	amended by adding at the end the following:
12	"(c) USE OF TECHNOLOGY.—
13	"(1) Use of Portal.—The services referred to
14	in subsection (a) may include the means of access to
15	and use of an electronic or digital portal to facilitate
16	the provision of community support to care for and
17	meet specific needs of families and children.
18	"(2) Limitation.—Such a portal shall not re-
19	tain or share personally identifiable information
20	about a beneficiary without consent or for any pur-
21	pose other than referral.".
22	(b) Allowing Support for Family Resource
23	Centers.—Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)) is amend-
24	ed—

1	(1) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting ", includ-
2	ing services provided by family resource centers,"
3	before "designed"; and
4	(2) by adding at the end the following:
5	"(10) Family resource center.—
6	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'family re-
7	source center' means a community or school-
8	based hub of support services for families
9	that—
10	"(i) utilizes an approach that is multi-
11	generational, strengths-based, and family-
12	centered;
13	"(ii) reflects, and is responsive to,
14	community needs and interests;
15	"(iii) provides support at no or low
16	cost for participants; and
17	"(iv) builds communities of peer sup-
18	port for families, including kinship fami-
19	lies, to develop social connections that re-
20	duce isolation and stress.
21	"(B) Special rule.—For purposes of
22	this subpart, an expenditure for a service pro-
23	vided by a family resource center may be treat-
24	ed as an expenditure for any 1 or more of fam-
25	ily support services, family preservation serv-

1	ices, family reunification services, or adoption
2	promotion and support services as long as the
3	expenditure is related to serving the children
4	and families in the specified category and con-
5	sistent with the overall purpose of the cat-
6	egory.".
7	(c) Updating State Plan Requirement.—Sec-
8	tion $422(b)(1)$ (42 U.S.C. $622(b)(1)$) is amended to read
9	as follows:
10	"(1) provide that a State agency will administer
11	or supervise the administration of the plan under
12	this subpart;".
13	(d) Access to Legal Representation.—Section
14	422(b)(4) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(4)) is amended—
15	(1) by striking "and" at the end of subpara-
16	graph (A);
17	(2) by adding "and" at the end of subpara-
18	graph (B); and
19	(3) by adding at the end the following:
20	"(C) the steps that the State will take to
21	ensure that, with respect to any judicial pro-
22	ceeding involving a child and in which there is
23	an allegation of child abuse or neglect, includ-
24	ing a proceeding on dependency, adoption,
25	guardianship, or termination of parental rights,

1	information about available independent legal
2	representation is provided to—
3	"(i) the child, as appropriate; and
4	"(ii) any individual who is a parent or
5	guardian, or has legal custody, of the
6	child;".
7	(e) Supporting Mental Health and Well-
8	BEING OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.—Section
9	422(b)(15)(A) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(15) is amended—
10	(1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—
11	(A) by inserting "and, if applicable, the
12	State agency responsible for mental health serv-
13	ices," before "and in consultation"; and
14	(B) by inserting "mental health pro-
15	viders," before "other experts";
16	(2) in clause (ii), by inserting "a list of services
17	provided to support the physical and" before "emo-
18	tional";
19	(3) in clause (iv), by inserting "and mental
20	health" before "services";
21	(4) in clause (v), by inserting ", informed con-
22	sent of youth, and compliance with professional
23	practice guidelines" before the semicolon; and
24	(5) in clause (vi), by inserting ", licensed men-
25	tal health providers "hefore "or other"

1	(f) Reduction of Administrative Burden.—
2	(1) In general.—Subpart 3 of part B of title
3	IV (42 U.S.C. 629m) is amended by redesignating
4	section 440 as section 443 and inserting before such
5	section the following:
6	"SEC. 441. REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN.
7	"(a) In General.—The Secretary shall reduce the
8	burden of administering this part imposed on the recipi-
9	ents of funds under this part, by—
10	"(1) reviewing and revising administrative data
11	collection instruments and forms to eliminate dupli-
12	cation and streamline reporting requirements for the
13	recipients while collecting all data required under
14	this part;
15	"(2) in coordination with activities required
16	under the Paperwork Reduction Act, conducting an
17	analysis of the total number of hours reported by
18	the recipients to comply with paperwork require-
19	ments and exploring, in consultation with the recipi-
20	ents, how to reduce the number of hours required
21	for the compliance by at least 15 percent;
22	"(3) collecting input from the recipients with
23	respect to fiscal and oversight requirements and
24	making changes to ensure consistency with stand-

1	ards and guidelines for other Federal formula grant
2	programs based on the input; and
3	"(4) respecting the sovereignty of Indian tribes
4	when complying with this subsection.
5	"(b) Limitation on Applicability.—Subsection
6	(a) of this section shall not apply to any reporting or data
7	collection otherwise required by law that would affect the
8	ability of the Secretary to monitor and ensure compliance
9	with State plans approved under this part or ensure that
10	funds are expended consistent with this part.
11	"SEC. 442. PUBLIC ACCESS TO STATE PLANS.
12	"The Secretary shall—
13	"(1) create a standardized format for State
14	plans required under sections 422 and 432 used to
15	monitor compliance with those sections;
16	"(2) produce comparisons and analyses of
17	trends in State plans to inform future technical as-
18	sistance and policy development;
19	"(3) make the State plans available on a public
20	website; and
21	"(4) include on the website aggregated national
22	summaries of State submissions as the Secretary
23	deems appropriate.".

1 (2) Implementation.—Within 2 years after 2 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall— 3 4 (A) comply with section 441 of the Social Security Act, as added by the amendment made 6 by paragraph (1); and 7 (B) notify each recipient of funds under 8 part B of title IV of the Social Security Act of 9 any change made by the Secretary pursuant to 10 such section affecting the recipient. 11 (3) Report.—Within 3 years after the date of 12 the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health 13 and Human Services shall submit to the Committee 14 on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives 15 and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a re-16 port describing the efforts of the Secretary to com-17 ply with section 441 of the Social Security Act, as 18 added by the amendment made by paragraph (1), in-19 cluding the specific actions to comply with each 20 paragraph of such section. 21 Primary Prevention Partners.—Section 22 435(a)(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 429e(a)(2)(B)) is amended by in-23 serting "including community-based partners with expertise in preventing unnecessary child welfare system in-

volvement" before the semicolon.

$1\;$ sec. 107. Streamlining funding for indian tribes.

2	(a) Subpart 1.—
3	(1) Tribal set-aside; direct payments to
4	TRIBES; EXEMPTIVE AUTHORITY.—
5	(A) In General.—Section 428 (42 U.S.C.
6	628) is amended by striking subsections (a) and
7	(b) and inserting the following:
8	"(a) Reservation of Funds; Direct Pay-
9	MENTS.—Out of any amount appropriated pursuant to
10	section 425 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall reserve
11	3 percent for grants to Indian tribes and tribal organiza-
12	tions, which shall be paid directly to Indian tribes and
13	tribal organizations with a plan approved under this sub-
14	part, in accordance with section 433(a).".
15	(B) Conforming Amendment.—Section
16	423(a) (42 U.S.C. 623(a)) is amended by strik-
17	ing "the sum appropriated pursuant to section
18	425 for each fiscal year" and inserting "for
19	each fiscal year, the sum appropriated pursuant
20	to section 425 remaining after applying section
21	428(a)".
22	(C) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section
23	428(c) (42 U.S.C. 628(c)) is amended by strik-
24	ing "450b" and inserting "5304".
25	(2) Improving compliance with the indian
26	CHILD WELFARE ACT.—

1	(A) STATE PLAN REQUIREMENT.—Section
2	422(b)(9) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(9)) is amended by
3	striking "Act;" and inserting "Act of 1978, in-
4	cluding how the State will ensure timely notice
5	to Indian tribes of State custody proceedings
6	involving Indian children, foster care or adop-
7	tive placements of Indian children, and case
8	recordkeeping as such matters relate to trans-
9	fers of jurisdiction, termination of parental
10	rights, and active efforts;".
11	(B) Technical assistance.—Subpart 1
12	of part B of title IV (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) is
13	amended by adding at the end the following:
14	"SEC. 429B. EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDIAN
14 15	"SEC. 429B. EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978.
15	CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978.
15 16 17	CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978. "(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2025,
15 16 17	CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978. "(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2025, the Secretary, in consultation with Indian tribal organiza-
15 16 17 18	CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978. "(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2025, the Secretary, in consultation with Indian tribal organiza- tions and States, shall develop a plan and provide tech-
15 16 17 18 19	CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978. "(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2025, the Secretary, in consultation with Indian tribal organizations and States, shall develop a plan and provide technical assistance supporting effective implementation of the
15 16 17 18 19 20	CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978. "(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2025, the Secretary, in consultation with Indian tribal organizations and States, shall develop a plan and provide technical assistance supporting effective implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, including specific meas-
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	"(a) In General.—Not later than October 1, 2025, the Secretary, in consultation with Indian tribal organizations and States, shall develop a plan and provide technical assistance supporting effective implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, including specific measures identified in State plans as required by section

- 1 established under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978,
- 2 including, at a minimum, the following:

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

- 3 "(1) Timely identification of Indian children
 4 and extended family members.
- 5 "(2) Timely tribal notice of State child custody 6 proceedings involving an Indian child.
 - "(3) Reports of cases in which a transfer of jurisdiction (as defined under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978) was granted or was not granted, and reasons specified for denial in cases where transfer was denied.
 - "(4) In cases in which a State court orders a foster care placement of an Indian child, whether requirements for active efforts to prevent the breakup of the Indian family, testimony of a qualified expert witness, and evidentiary standards were met.
 - "(5) Whether an Indian child was placed in a placement that is required to be preferred under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, and if not, the reasons specified.
 - "(6) In cases in which a State court orders the termination of parental rights to an Indian child, whether requirements for active efforts to prevent the breakup of the Indian family, testimony of a

1	qualified expert witness, and evidentiary standards
2	were met.
3	"(b) Interagency Coordination.—On request of
4	the Secretary, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide
5	the Secretary with such guidance and assistance as may
6	be necessary to facilitate informing States and public child
7	welfare agencies on how to comply with the Indian Child
8	Welfare Act of 1978, including specific measures identi-
9	fied in State plans as required by section 422(b)(9) of this
10	Act.
11	"(c) Biennial Reports to Congress.—The Sec-
12	retary shall biennially submit to the Committee on Ways
13	and Means of the House of Representatives and the Com-
14	mittee on Finance of the Senate a written report on how—
15	"(1) the States are complying with the Indian
16	Child Welfare Act of 1978 and section 422(b)(9) of
17	this Act, as informed by data collected under this
18	section; and
19	"(2) the Secretary is assisting States and In-

- "(2) the Secretary is assisting States and Indian tribes to improve implementation of Federal standards established under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.".
- 23 (3) Reporting requirements; administra-24 tive costs.—

20

21

22

1	(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 428 (42 U.S.C.
2	628) is amended by redesignating subsection (c)
3	as subsection (d) and inserting before such sub-
4	section the following:
5	"(b) Authority to Streamline Reporting Re-
6	QUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with
7	the affected Indian tribes, modify any reporting require-
8	ment imposed by or under this part on an Indian tribe,
9	tribal organization, or tribal consortium if the total of the
10	amounts allotted to the Indian tribe, tribal organization,
11	or tribal consortium under this part for the fiscal year is
12	not more than \$50,000, and in a manner that limits the
13	administrative burden on any tribe to which not more than
14	\$50,000 is allotted under this subpart for the fiscal year.
15	"(c) Tribal Authority to Substitute the Fed-
16	ERAL NEGOTIATED INDIRECT COST RATE FOR ADMINIS-
17	TRATIVE COSTS CAP.—For purposes of sections
18	422(b)(14) and 424(e), an Indian tribal organization may
19	elect to have the weighted average of the indirect cost
20	rates in effect under part 220 of title 2, Code of Federal
21	Regulations with respect to the administrative costs of the
22	Indian tribal organization apply in lieu of the percentage
23	specified in each such section.".
24	(B) Conforming amendments.—Section
25	431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)) is amended in each

1	of paragraphs (5) and (6) by striking "428(c)"
2	and inserting "428(d)".
3	(b) Subpart 2.—
4	(1) Tribal Plan Exemption.—Section
5	432(b)(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 629b(b)(2)(B)) is amend-
6	ed
7	(A) by striking "section 433(a)" the 1st
8	place it appears and inserting "sections 433(a)
9	and $437(c)(1)$ combined"; and
10	(B) by striking "section 433(a)" the 2nd
11	place it appears and inserting "such sections".
12	(2) Application of tribal set-aside be-
13	FORE OTHER SET-ASIDES.—Section 436(b)(3) (42
14	U.S.C. 429f(b)(3)) is amended by striking "After
15	applying paragraphs (4) and (5) (but before apply-
16	ing paragraphs (1) or (2)), the" and inserting
17	"The".
18	(3) Increase in funding for tribal court
19	IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—Section 438(c)(3) (42
20	U.S.C. 629h(c)(3)) is amended by inserting "for fis-
21	cal year 2025, and \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal
22	years 2026 through 2029," before "for grants".

1	SEC. 108. ACCELERATING ACCESS TO FAMILY FIRST PRE-
2	VENTION SERVICES.
3	(a) In General.—Section 435 (42 U.S.C. 629e) is
4	amended by adding at the end the following:
5	"(f) Prevention Services Evaluation Partner-
6	SHIPS.—
7	"(1) Purpose.—The purpose of this subsection
8	is to authorize the Secretary to make competitive
9	grants to support the timely evaluation of—
10	"(A) services and programs described in
11	section 471(e); or
12	"(B) kinship navigator programs described
13	in section $474(a)(7)$.
14	"(2) Grants.—In accordance with applications
15	approved under this subsection, the Secretary may
16	make grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible enti-
17	ties to carry out projects designed to evaluate a serv-
18	ice or program provided by the eligible entity, or an
19	entity in partnership with the eligible entity, with re-
20	spect to the requirements for a promising practice,
21	supported practice, or well-supported practice de-
22	scribed in section $471(e)(4)(C)$.
23	"(3) Applications.—
24	"(A) In general.—An eligible entity may
25	apply to the Secretary for a grant under this

1	subsection to carry out a project that meets the
2	following requirements:
3	"(i) The project is designed in accord-
4	ance with paragraph (2).
5	"(ii) The project is to be carried out
6	by the applicant in partnership with—
7	"(I) a State agency that admin-
8	isters, or supervises the administra-
9	tion of, the State plan approved under
10	part E, or an agency administering
11	the plan under the supervision of the
12	State agency; and
13	" (Π) if the applicant is unable or
14	unwilling to do so, at least 1 external
15	evaluator to carry out the evaluation
16	of the service or program provided by
17	the applicant.
18	"(B) Contents.—The application shall
19	contain the following:
20	"(i) A description of the project, in-
21	cluding—
22	"(I) a statement explaining why
23	a grant is necessary to carry out the
24	project; and

1	"(II) the amount of grant funds
2	that would be disbursed to each entity
3	described in subparagraph (A)(ii) in
4	partnership with the applicant.
5	"(ii) A certification from each entity
6	described in subparagraph (A)(ii) that pro-
7	vides assurances that the individual or en-
8	tity is in partnership with the applicant
9	and will fulfill the responsibilities of the
10	entity specified in the description provided
11	pursuant to clause (i) of this subpara-
12	graph.
13	"(iii) A certification from the appli-
14	cant that provides assurances that the ap-
15	plicant intends to comply with subpara-
16	graph (A)(ii)(II), if applicable.
17	"(iv) At the option of the eligible enti-
18	ty, a certification from the applicant that
19	the applicant requires an external eval-
20	uator secured by the Secretary pursuant to
21	paragraph (5), if applicable.
22	"(4) Priorities.—In approving applications
23	under this subsection, the Secretary shall prioritize
24	the following:

1	"(A) Addressing, with respect to the clear-
2	inghouse of practices described in section
3	476(d)(2), deficiencies or gaps identified by the
4	Secretary in consultation with—
5	"(i) States, political subdivisions of a
6	State, and tribal communities carrying out,
7	or receiving the benefits of, a service or
8	program; and
9	"(ii) child welfare experts, including
10	individuals with lived experience.
11	"(B) Maximizing the number of evidence-
12	based services or programs to be included in the
13	clearinghouse of practices described in section
14	476(d)(2).
15	"(C) Timely completion of evaluations and
16	the production of evidence.
17	"(D) Supporting services or programs that
18	are based on, or are adaptations to new popu-
19	lation settings of, a service or program with re-
20	liable evidence about the benefits and risks of
21	the service or program.
22	"(5) Availability of external eval-
23	UATORS.—
24	"(A) IN GENERAL.—Before accepting ap-
25	plications under this subsection, the Secretary

1	shall make reasonable efforts to identify at least
2	1 entity to serve as an external evaluator for
3	any eligible entity that includes a certification
4	under paragraph (3)(B)(iv) with an application
5	under this subsection.
6	"(B) No effect on consideration of
7	APPLICATION.—The Secretary may not consider
8	whether an eligible entity is in partnership with
9	an external evaluator described in paragraph
10	(A) in approving an application under this sub-
11	section submitted by the eligible entity.
12	"(6) Reports.—
13	"(A) By Grant Recipients.—Within 1
14	year after receiving a grant under this sub-
15	section, and every year thereafter for the next
16	5 years, the grant recipient shall submit to the
17	Secretary a written report on—
18	"(i) the use of grant funds;
19	"(ii) whether the program or service
20	evaluated by the project meets a require-
21	ment specified in section 471(e)(4)(C), in-
22	cluding information about—
23	"(I) how the program or service
24	is being carried out in accordance

1	with standards specified in the re-
2	quirement;
3	"(II) any outcomes of the pro-
4	gram or service; and
5	"(III) any outcome with respect
6	to which the service or program com-
7	pares favorably to a comparison prac-
8	tice; and
9	"(iii) whether the Secretary has in-
10	cluded the program or service in an update
11	to the clearinghouse of practices described
12	in section $476(d)(2)$.
13	"(B) By the secretary.—The Secretary
14	shall submit to the Committee on Ways and
15	Means of the House of Representatives and to
16	the Committee on Finance of the Senate an an-
17	nual written report on—
18	"(i) the grants awarded under this
19	subsection;
20	"(ii) the programs funded by the
21	grants;
22	"(iii) any technical assistance pro-
23	vided by the Secretary in carrying out this
24	subsection, including with respect to the

1	efforts to secure external evaluators pursu-
2	ant to paragraph (5); and
3	"(iv) any efforts by the Secretary to
4	support program evaluation and review
5	pursuant to section 471(e) and inclusion of
6	programs in the pre-approved list of serv-
7	ices and programs described in section
8	471(e)(4)(D) or the clearinghouse of prac-
9	tices described in section 476(d)(2).
10	"(7) Funding.—
11	"(A) Limitations.—Of the amounts avail-
12	able to carry out this subsection, the Secretary
13	may use not more than 5 percent to provide
14	technical assistance.
15	"(B) Carryover.—Amounts made avail-
16	able to carry out this subsection shall remain
17	available until expended.
18	"(8) Definitions.—In this subsection:
19	"(A) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligi-
20	ble entity' means any of the following providing
21	a service or program or, in the sole determina-
22	tion of the Secretary, able to provide a service
23	or program if awarded a grant under this sub-
24	section:

1	"(i) A State, a political subdivision of
2	a State, or an agency or department of a
3	State or political subdivision of a State.
4	"(ii) An entity described in subpara-
5	graph (A) or (B) of section 426(a)(1).
6	"(iii) An Indian tribe or tribal organi-
7	zation.
8	"(B) External evaluator.—The term
9	'external evaluator' means an entity with the
10	ability and willingness to evaluate a service or
11	program pursuant to paragraph (2) that is not
12	provided by the entity.
13	"(C) Service or program.—The term
14	'service or program'—
15	"(i) means a service or program de-
16	scribed in section 471(e); and
17	"(ii) includes a kinship navigator pro-
18	gram described in section 474(a)(7).".
19	(b) Funding.—Section 437(b) (42 U.S.C. 629g(b))
20	is amended by adding at the end the following:
21	"(5) Preventive services evaluation
22	PARTNERSHIPS.—The Secretary shall reserve
23	\$5,000,000 for grants under section 435(f) for each
24	of fiscal years 2026 through 2029.".

1	SEC. 109. STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR YOUTH AGING
2	OUT OF FOSTER CARE.
3	(a) Caseworker Visits.—Section 422(b)(17) (42
4	U.S.C. 622(b)(17)) is amended by inserting ", and include
5	a description of how the State may offer virtual case-
6	worker visits to youth in care who have attained the age
7	of 18 years and provided informed consent for virtual vis-
8	its" before the semicolon.
9	(b) Youth and Family Engagement in Child
10	Welfare Program Planning.—Section 432(b)(1) (42
11	U.S.C. 629b(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:
12	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ap-
13	prove a plan that meets the requirements of sub-
14	section (a) only if—
15	"(A) the plan was developed jointly by the
16	Secretary and the State, and the State, in de-
17	veloping the plan, consulted with—
18	"(i) appropriate public and nonprofit
19	private agencies;
20	"(ii) community-based organizations
21	involved in providing services for children
22	and families in the areas of family preser-
23	vation, family support, family reunifica-
24	tion, foster care, kinship, and adoption
25	promotion and support;

1	"(iii) parents with child welfare expe-
2	rience, foster parents, adoptive parents,
3	and kinship caregivers; and
4	"(iv) children, youth, and young
5	adults with experience in the child welfare
6	system, including State boards and coun-
7	cils comprised of youth with lived experi-
8	ence who represent the diversity of chil-
9	dren in the State to whom the plan would
10	apply; and
11	"(B) the State has made publicly acces-
12	sible on a website of the State agency a report
13	that outlines how the State has implemented
14	the suggestions of the children and youth re-
15	ferred to in subparagraph (A)(iv).".
16	SEC. 110. RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIVE
17	AND KINSHIP CAREGIVERS.
18	(a) In General.—Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C.
19	629a(a)), as amended by section 106(b)(2) of this Act,
20	is amended—
21	(1) in paragraph (1)—
22	(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
23	(A)—
24	(i) by striking "children" and insert-
25	ing "children, youth,"; and

1	(ii) by striking "adoptive and ex-
2	tended" and inserting "kinship and adop-
3	tive";
4	(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking "par-
5	ents and other caregivers (including foster par-
6	ents)" and inserting "parents, kinship care-
7	givers, and foster parents";
8	(C) by striking "and" at the end of sub-
9	paragraph (E);
10	(D) by striking the period at the end of
11	subparagraph (F) and inserting "; and"; and
12	(E) by adding at the end the following:
13	"(G)(i) peer-to-peer mentoring and support
14	programs with demonstrated experience fos-
15	tering constructive relationships between chil-
16	dren and families and mentors with relevant
17	lived experience or interactions with the child
18	welfare system; and
19	"(ii) for purposes of this subpart, an ex-
20	penditure for a service described in clause (i)
21	may be treated as an expenditure for any 1 or
22	more of family support services, family preser-
23	vation services, family reunification services, or
24	adoption promotion and support services, as
25	long as the expenditure is related to serving the

1	children and families in the specified category
2	and consistent with the overall purpose of the
3	category.";
4	(2) in paragraph (2)(B)—
5	(A) in clause (i), by striking "children"
6	and inserting "children, youth,"; and
7	(B) in clause (ii), by striking "extended"
8	and inserting "kinship";
9	(3) in paragraph (7)(A), by inserting "with kin-
10	ship caregivers or" before "in a foster family home";
11	and
12	(4) by adding at the end the following:
13	"(11) Youth.—The term 'youth' means an in-
14	dividual who has not attained 26 years of age.".
15	(b) Kinship Navigators.—
16	(1) In General.—Section 427 (42 U.S.C. 627)
17	is amended—
18	(A) in the section heading, by striking
19	"FAMILY CONNECTION GRANTS" and insert-
20	ing "kinship navigators";
21	(B) in subsection (a)—
22	(i) in the matter preceding paragraph
23	(1), by striking "helping" and inserting
24	"administering programs to help":

1	(ii) by striking "of—" and all that
2	follows through "a kinship" and inserting
3	"of a kinship";
4	(iii) in paragraph (1)(C)—
5	(I) by striking "and" at the end
6	of clause (iii);
7	(II) by adding "and" at the end
8	of clause (iv); and
9	(III) by adding at the end the
10	following:
11	"(v) connections to individualized as-
12	sistance, as needed;";
13	(iv) by striking paragraphs (2)
14	through (4);
15	(v) by redesignating subparagraphs
16	(A) through (G) of paragraph (1) as para-
17	graphs (1) through (7), respectively;
18	(vi) by redesignating clauses (i)
19	through (iv) and clause (v) (as added by
20	clause (iii)(III) of this subparagraph) as
21	subparagraphs (A) through (E), respec-
22	tively;
23	(vii) by moving each provision so re-
24	designated 2 ems to the left; and

1	(viii) by striking "caregiving;" and in-
2	serting "caregiving.";
3	(C) in subsection (b)—
4	(i) in paragraph (1), by striking "1 or
5	more of";
6	(ii) by redesignating paragraphs (3)
7	and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respec-
8	tively, and inserting after paragraph (2)
9	the following:
10	"(3) a description of how the entity will directly
11	fund, or provide data to the Secretary for, an eval-
12	uation which will publish and submit information to
13	the clearinghouse described in section $476(d)(2)$ and
14	which is designed to meet the requirements of sec-
15	tion 471(e)(4)(C), or a description of how the funds
16	will be used to help the State transition to a pro-
17	gram for which the State will seek reimbursement
18	under section 474(a)(7);";
19	(iii) in paragraph (4) (as so redesig-
20	nated), by striking "and" at the end;
21	(iv) in paragraph (5) (as so redesig-
22	nated), by striking the period and inserting
23	"; and"; and
24	(v) by adding at the end the following:

1	"(6) if the entity is a State, local or tribal child
2	welfare agency—
3	"(A) documentation of support from a rel-
4	evant community-based organization with expe-
5	rience serving kinship families when applicable;
6	or
7	"(B) a description of how the organization
8	plans to coordinate its services and activities
9	with those offered by the relevant community-
10	based organizations.";
11	(D) by striking subsection (d) and insert-
12	ing the following:
13	"(d) Federal Share.—An entity to which a grant
14	is made under this section may use the grant to pay not
15	more than 75 percent of the cost of the activities to be
16	carried out by the entity pursuant to this section.";
17	(E) in subsection (g)—
18	(i) by striking all that precedes "2
19	percent" and inserting the following:
20	"(g) Reservation of Funds for Technical As-
21	SISTANCE.—The Secretary may reserve"; and
22	(ii) by striking "subsection (h)" the
23	2nd place it appears and inserting "section
24	437(b)(6)"; and
25	(F) by striking subsection (h).

1	(2) Reservation of discretionary
2	FUNDS.—Section 437(b) (42 U.S.C. 629g(b)), as
3	amended by section 108(b) of this Act, is amended
4	by adding at the end the following:
5	"(6) Kinship Navigators.—The Secretary
6	shall reserve \$10,000,000 for grants under section
7	427 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029.".
8	(3) Conforming Amendment.—Section
9	474(a)(7) (42 U.S.C. $674(a)(7)$) is amended by
10	striking " $427(a)(1)$ " and inserting " $427(a)$ ".
11	SEC. 111. AVOIDING NEGLECT BY ADDRESSING POVERTY.
12	(a) Family Preservation Services.—Section
13	431(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)(1)), as amended by section
14	110(a)(1) of this Act, is amended—
15	(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking "and"
16	after the semicolon;
17	(2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period
18	and inserting "; and"; and
19	(3) by adding at the end the following:
20	"(H)(i) services providing nonrecurring
21	short term benefits (including supports related
22	to housing instability, utilities, transportation,
23	and food assistance, among other basic needs)
24	that address immediate needs related to a spe-
25	cific crisis, situation, or event affecting the abil-

1	ity of a child to remain in a home established
2	for the child that is not intended to meet an on-
3	going need; and
4	"(ii) for purposes of this subpart, an ex-
5	penditure for a service described in clause (i)
6	may be treated as an expenditure for any 1 or
7	more of family support services, family preser-
8	vation services, family reunification services, or
9	adoption promotion and support services as
10	long as the expenditure is related to serving the
11	children and families in the specified category
12	and consistent with the overall purpose of the
13	category.".
14	(b) State Plan Requirements.—Section 432(a)
15	(42 U.S.C. 629b(a)) is amended—
16	(1) in paragraph (9), by striking "and" after
17	the semicolon;
18	(2) in paragraph (10), by striking the period
19	and inserting "; and"; and
20	(3) by adding at the end the following:
21	"(11) provides a description of policies in place,
22	including training for employees, to address child
23	welfare reports and investigations of neglect con-
24	cerning the living arrangements or subsistence needs

of a child with the goal to prevent the separation of

- a child from a parent of the child solely due to pov-
- 2 erty, to ensure access to services described in section
- 431(a)(1)(H).".
- 4 SEC. 112. STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR CASEWORKERS.
- 5 (a) Reauthorization of, and Increase in Fund-
- 6 ING FOR, CASEWORKER VISITS.—Section 436(b)(4)(A)
- 7 (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(4)(A)) is amended by striking "each
- 8 of fiscal years 2017 through 2023" and inserting "fiscal
- 9 year 2025 and \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2026 and each
- 10 succeeding fiscal year".
- 11 (b) MINIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—Section 433(e) (42
- 12 U.S.C. 629c(e)) is amended by striking paragraphs (1)
- 13 and (2) and inserting the following:
- 14 "(1) Base allotment.—From the amount re-
- served pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fis-
- 16 cal year, the Secretary shall first allot to each State
- 17 (other than an Indian tribe) that has provided to the
- 18 Secretary such documentation as may be necessary
- 19 to verify that the jurisdiction has complied with sec-
- tion 436(b)(4)(B)(ii) during the fiscal year, a base
- allotment of \$100,000, and shall then allot to each
- of those States an amount determined in paragraph
- 23 (2) or (3) of this subsection, as applicable.
- 24 "(2) Territories.—From the amount reserved
- pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fiscal year

that remains after applying paragraph (1) of this subsection for the fiscal year, the Secretary shall allot to each jurisdiction specified in subsection (b) of this section to which a base allotment is made under such paragraph (1) an amount determined in the same manner as the allotment to each of such jurisdictions is determined under section 423 (without regard to the initial allotment of \$70,000 to each State).

"(3) OTHER STATES.—From the amount reserved pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fiscal year that remains after applying paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection for the fiscal year, the Secretary shall allot to each State (other than an Indian tribe) not specified in subsection (b) of this section to which a base allotment was made under paragraph (1) of this subsection an amount equal to such remaining amount multiplied by the supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits percentage of the State (as defined in subsection (c)(2) of this section) for the fiscal year, except that in applying subsection (c)(2)(A) of this section, 'subsection (e)(3)' shall be substituted for 'such paragraph (1)'.''.

1	(c) Requirement to Use Funds to Improve
2	QUALITY OF CASEWORKER VISITS WITH FOSTER CHIL-
3	DREN.—Section 436(b)(4)(B)(i) (42 U.S.C.
4	629f(b)(4)(B)(i)) is amended to read as follows:
5	"(i) In General.—A State to which
6	an amount is paid from amounts reserved
7	under subparagraph (A) shall use the
8	amount to improve the quality of monthly
9	caseworker visits with children who are in
10	foster care under the responsibility of the
11	State, with an emphasis on—
12	"(I) reducing caseload ratios and
13	the administrative burden on case-
14	workers, to improve caseworker deci-
15	sion making on the safety, perma-
16	nency, and well-being of foster chil-
17	dren and on activities designed to in-
18	crease retention, recruitment, and
19	training of caseworkers;
20	"(II) implementing technology
21	solutions to streamline caseworker du-
22	ties and modernize systems, ensuring
23	improved efficiency and effectiveness
24	in child welfare services:

1	"(III) improving caseworker safe-
2	ty;
3	"(IV) mental health resources to
4	support caseworker well-being, includ-
5	ing peer-to-peer support programs;
6	and
7	"(V) recruitment campaigns
8	aimed at attracting qualified case-
9	worker candidates.".
10	(d) Elimination of Cost-share Penalty Tied to
11	MONTHLY CASEWORKER VISIT STANDARD.—Section
12	424(f) (42 U.S.C. 624(f)) is amended—
13	(1) by striking " $(1)(A)$ "; and
14	(2) by striking paragraphs (1)(B) and (2).
15	SEC. 113. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FOR IMPROVING RE-
16	LATIONSHIPS BETWEEN INCARCERATED
17	PARENTS AND CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.
18	(a) In General.—Section 439 (42 U.S.C. 629i) is
19	amended to read as follows:
20	"SEC. 439. STATE PARTNERSHIP PLANNING AND DEM-
21	ONSTRATION GRANTS TO SUPPORT MEAN-
22	INGFUL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN FOSTER
23	CHILDREN AND THE INCARCERATED PAR-
24	ENTS OF THE CHILDREN.
25	"(a) Authority.—

1	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make
2	demonstration grants to eligible State partnerships
3	to develop, implement, and provide support for pro-
4	grams that enable and sustain meaningful relation-
5	ships between covered foster children and the incar-
6	cerated parents of the children.
7	"(2) Payment of annual installments.—
8	The Secretary shall pay each demonstration grant in
9	5 annual installments.
10	"(3) 1-YEAR PLANNING GRANTS.—The Sec-
11	retary may make a planning grant to a recipient of
12	a demonstration grant, to be paid to the recipient 1
13	year before payment of the 1st annual installment of
14	the demonstration grant and in an amount not
15	greater than any installment of the demonstration
16	grant, if—
17	"(A) the recipient includes a request for a
18	planning grant in the application under sub-
19	section (c); and
20	"(B) the Secretary determines that a plan-
21	ning grant would assist the recipient and im-
22	prove the effectiveness of the demonstration
23	grant.

"(b) ELIGIBLE STATE PARTNERSHIP DEFINED.—

- "(1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term 1 2 'eligible State partnership' means an agreement en-3 tered into by, at a minimum, the following: "(A) The State child welfare agency re-4 sponsible for the administration of the State 6 plans under this part. "(B) The State agency responsible for 7 8 adult corrections. "(2) Additional partners.—For purposes of 9 10 this section, an eligible State partnership may in-11 clude any entity with experience in serving incarcer-12 ated parents and their children. 13 "(3) Partnerships entered into by indian 14 TRIBES OR TRIBAL CONSORTIA.—Notwithstanding 15 paragraph (1), if an Indian tribe or tribal consor-16 tium enters into a partnership pursuant to this sec-17 tion that does not consist solely of tribal child wel-18 fare agencies (or a consortium of the agencies), the
- "(c) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible State partnership seeking a demonstration grant under this section to carry out a program described in subsection (a)(1) shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as

partnership for purposes of this section.

partnership shall be considered an eligible State

19

1	the Secretary may require. The application shall include
2	the following:
3	"(1) A summary of the program, including how
4	the program will support a meaningful relationship
5	between a covered foster child and an incarcerated
6	parent of the child.
7	"(2) A description of the activities to be carried
8	out by the program, which must include all of the
9	activities described in subsection (d) that are in the
10	best interest of the covered foster child.
11	"(3) A framework for identifying—
12	"(A) each covered foster child eligible for
13	services under the program, including, to the
14	extent practicable, coordination of data between
15	relevant State child welfare agencies and court
16	systems; and
17	"(B) the roles and responsibilities of the
18	entities in the partnership.
19	"(4) Documentation that the applicant is an eli-
20	gible State partnership.
21	"(5) Assurances that the applicant will partici-
22	pate fully in the evaluation described in subsection
23	(f)(2) and shall maintain records for the program
24	including demographic information disaggregated by

relevant characteristics with respect to covered foster

1	children and incarcerated parents who participate in
2	the program.
3	"(d) Program Activities.—To the extent that the
4	activities are in the best interest of the covered foster
5	child, the activities referred to in subsection (c)(2) shall
6	include the following:
7	"(1) REVISION OF POLICIES.—Through con-
8	sultation with incarcerated parents and their fami-
9	lies, grantees shall promote organizational policies of
10	participating child welfare entities and collaborating
11	correctional facilities to promote meaningful rela-
12	tionships through regular and developmentally ap-
13	propriate communication and visitation between cov-
14	ered foster children and the incarcerated parents, in-
15	cluding, when appropriate, the following:
16	"(A) For child welfare entities—
17	"(i) inclusion of parents in case plan-
18	ning and decision making for children;
19	"(ii) regular sharing of information
20	and responses to requests for information
21	between caseworkers and incarcerated par-
22	ents with respect to the case information
23	of a child, any changes to a case, perma-
24	nency plans, requirements to maintain pa-

1	rental rights, and any efforts to terminate
2	parental rights;
3	"(iii) appropriate opportunities for in-
4	carcerated parents to demonstrate their re-
5	lationship with a covered foster child given
6	their incarceration, including training and
7	courses required for a service plan; and
8	"(iv) the enhanced visitation described
9	in paragraph (2).
10	"(B) For correctional facilities, fostering
11	visitation and communication that is develop-
12	mentally appropriate in terms of—
13	"(i) the nature of communication and
14	visitation, including—
15	"(I) the ability to physically
16	touch parents;
17	"(II) engaging with parents in lo-
18	cations that are appropriate for the
19	age and development of the child;
20	"(III) exchanging items that are
21	appropriate to the age and develop-
22	ment of the child, include expectations
23	that are appropriate for the age and
24	development of the child related to be-
25	havior, attire, and wait times; and

1	"(IV) allowing appropriate adults
2	to bring children if legal guardians
3	are not available to promote regular
4	contact;
5	"(ii) reasonable inclusion of all chil-
6	dren of the parent;
7	"(iii) communication and visitation at
8	times when the children are available;
9	"(iv) security procedures to comfort
10	children and be minimally invasive; and
11	"(v) promoting parent-child relation-
12	ships regardless of the sentence imposed
13	on the parent.
14	"(2) Enhanced visitation.—
15	"(A) Grantees shall facilitate weekly com-
16	munication and, for at least 9 days each year,
17	in-person visitation between a covered foster
18	child and any incarcerated parent of the child.
19	"(B) Electronic visitation (such as live
20	video visits, phone calls, and recorded books)
21	may be used but shall not be the sole method
22	to promote a meaningful relationship for pur-
23	poses of the grant.
24	"(C) Enhanced visitation programs shall—

1	"(i) integrate best practices for visita-
2	tion programs with incarcerated parents
3	and their children;
4	"(ii) adopt developmentally appro-
5	priate visitation policies and procedures
6	such as those described in paragraph
7	(1)(B);
8	"(iii) reduce or eliminate the cost of
9	developmentally appropriate communica-
10	tion and visitation for the covered foster
11	child, which may include the purchase of
12	communication technology, covering trans-
13	portation, insurance, and lodging costs,
14	costs related to providing appropriate visi-
15	tation spaces and activities, and other rel-
16	evant costs;
17	"(iv) to the extent practicable, inte-
18	grate appropriate parenting education to
19	help prepare and process visits; and
20	"(v) avoid restricting visitation and
21	communication as a punishment for the in-
22	carcerated parents.
23	"(3) Training.—Grantees shall incorporate on-
24	going training for child welfare workers, correctional
25	facility staff, and other program providers to under-

1	stand the importance of promoting meaningful rela-
2	tionships between children and incarcerated parents.
3	"(4) Case Management.—Grantees shall pro-
4	vide case management services for the incarcerated
5	parents of a covered foster child to promote the rela-
6	tionship, access to services, and coordination with
7	the caseworkers of the covered foster child to
8	strengthen the relationship.
9	"(5) Legal assistance.—Grantees shall facili-
10	tate access to necessary legal services and may use
11	grant funds for services that are not reimbursable
12	under other Federal programs.
13	"(e) Federal Share.—The Federal share of the
14	cost of any activity carried out using a grant made under
15	this section shall be not greater than 75 percent.
16	"(f) Technical Assistance, Evaluations, and
17	Reports.—
18	"(1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
19	shall provide technical assistance with respect to
20	grants under this section, including by—
21	"(A) assisting grantees in understanding
22	best practices in promoting meaningful relation-
23	ships between incarcerated parents and their
24	children as well as consulting with appropriate
25	stakeholders when developing their programs;

1	"(B) assisting grantees with establishing
2	and analyzing implementation and performance
3	indicators; and
1	"(C) conducting an annual technical aggist

"(C) conducting an annual technical assistance and training meeting and an annual grantee meeting so that grantees can learn from the experiences of other grantees.

"(2) EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary shall conduct an evaluation of program outcomes, including with respect to parent and child well-being, parent-child interactions, parental involvement, awareness of child development and parenting practices, placement stability, and termination of parental rights with respect to covered foster children and incarcerated parents, to measure program effectiveness, as determined by the Secretary, and identify opportunities for improved program practices and implementation.

"(3) Reports to the congress.—

"(A) Initial Report.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report that includes—

1	"(i) the number of applications for
2	grants under this section;
3	"(ii) the number of grants awarded,
4	and the amounts for each grant; and
5	"(iii) information on the grants, in-
6	cluding—
7	"(I) interim results of the evalua-
8	tion described in paragraph (2);
9	"(II) disaggregated data on cov-
10	ered foster children and incarcerated
11	parents;
12	"(III) information on the com-
13	position of eligible State partnerships;
14	"(IV) best practices for facili-
15	tating meaningful relationships be-
16	tween covered foster children and in-
17	carcerated parents; and
18	"(V) barriers to implementation
19	or expansion of programs funded
20	under this section.
21	"(B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 6
22	years after the date of the enactment of this
23	section, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-
24	mittee on Ways and Means of the House of

1	Representatives and the Committee on Finance
2	of the Senate a report that includes—
3	"(i) the final results of the evaluation
4	described in paragraph (2); and
5	"(ii) recommendations for refinements
6	to grant requirements to improve program
7	outcomes.
8	"(g) Authority of Secretary With Respect to
9	Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations.—
10	"(1) Waiver or modification of require-
11	MENTS.—In making a grant to an Indian tribe or
12	tribal organization under this section, the Secretary
13	may waive the matching requirement of subsection
14	(e) or modify an application requirement imposed by
15	or under subsection (c) if the Secretary determines
16	that the waiver or modification is appropriate to the
17	needs, culture, and circumstances of the Indian tribe
18	or tribal organization.
19	"(2) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall use
20	tribally relevant data in carrying out the evaluation
21	under subsection $(f)(2)$ with respect to an Indian
22	tribe or tribal organization.
23	"(h) Limitations on Authorization of Appro-
24	PRIATIONS —There is authorized to be appropriated to the

- 1 Secretary not more than \$35,000,000 for each of fiscal
- 2 years 2026 through 2029 to carry out this section.
- 3 "(i) Definition of Covered Foster Child.—In
- 4 this section, the term 'covered foster child' means a child
- 5 that—
- 6 "(1) is in foster care; and
- 7 "(2) has at least 1 parent incarcerated in a
- 8 Federal, State, or local correctional facility.".
- 9 (b) Conforming Amendments.—
- 10 (1) Section 431(a)(2)(B)(vii) (42 U.S.C.
- 629a(a)(2)(B)(vii) is amended by striking "(as de-
- fined in section 439(b)(2)".
- 13 (2) Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)), as
- amended by sections 106(b)(2) and 110(a)(4) of this
- Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:
- 16 "(12) MENTORING.—The term 'mentoring'
- means a structured, managed program in which chil-
- dren are appropriately matched with screened and
- trained adult volunteers for one on-one relationships,
- 20 involving meetings and activities on a regular basis,
- intended to meet, in part, the child's need for in-
- volvement with a caring and supportive adult who
- provides a positive role model.".

1	SEC. 114. GUIDANCE TO STATES ON IMPROVING DATA COL-
2	LECTION AND REPORTING FOR YOUTH IN
3	RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS.
4	Within 2 years after the date of the enactment of this
5	Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in con-
6	sultation with the Department of Education, the Adminis-
7	tration for Children and Families, the Centers for Medi-
8	care and Medicaid Services, the Administration for Com-
9	munity Living, the Department of Justice, and other rel-
10	evant policy experts, as determined by the Secretary, shall
11	issue and disseminate, or update and revise, as applicable,
12	guidance to State agencies in administering State plans
13	approved under parts B and E of title IV of the Social
14	Security Act on the following:
15	(1) Best practices for Federal and State agen-
16	cies to collect data and share information related to
17	the well-being of youth residing in residential treat-
18	ment facilities, including those facilities operating in
19	multiple States or serving out-of-state youth.
20	(2) Best practices on improving State collection
21	and sharing of data related to incidences of mal-
22	treatment of youth residing in residential treatment
23	facilities, including with respect to meeting the re-
24	quirement of section 471(a)(9)(A) of such Act for
25	such youth in foster care.

1	(3) Best practices on improving oversight of
2	youth residential programs receiving Federal fund-
3	ing, and research-based strategies for risk assess-
4	ment related to the health, safety, and well-being of
5	youth in the facilities.
6	SEC. 115. STREAMLINING RESEARCH, TRAINING, AND
7	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING.
8	(a) Repurposing Discretionary Research Set-
9	ASIDE.—Section 435(c) (42 U.S.C. 629e(c)) is amended
10	to read as follows:
11	"(c) Evaluation, Research, and Technical As-
12	SISTANCE WITH RESPECT TO TARGETED PROGRAM RE-
13	SOURCES.—Of the amount reserved under section
14	437(b)(1) for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall use not less
15	than—
16	(1) \$1,000,000 for technical assistance to
17	grantees under section 437(f) and to support design
18	of local site evaluations with the goal of publishing
19	and submitting evaluation findings to the clearing-
20	house established under section 476(d), or to award
21	grants to allow current or former grantees under
22	section 437(f) to analyze, publish, and submit to the
23	clearinghouse data collected during past grants; and
24	(2) \$1,000,000 for technical assistance re-
25	quired under section 429B of this Act to support ef-

1	fective implementation of the Indian Child Welfare
2	Act of 1978 and to support development of associ-
3	ated State plan measures described pursuant to sec-
4	tion 422(b)(9) of this Act.".
5	(b) Elimination of Research Set-aside From
6	Mandatory Funds.—
7	(1) In General.—Section 436(b) (42 U.S.C.
8	629f(b)), as amended by the preceding provisions of
9	this Act, is amended by striking paragraph (1) and
10	redesignating paragraphs (2) through (5) as para-
11	graphs (1) through (4), respectively.
12	(2) Conforming amendments.—
13	(A) Section 433(a) (42 U.S.C. 629c(a)) is
14	amended by striking "436(b)(3)" and inserting
15	"436(b)(2)".
16	(B) Section 433(e) (42 U.S.C. 629c(e)), as
17	amended by section 112(b) of this Act, is
18	amended by striking "436(b)(4)(A)" and insert-
19	ing "436(b)(3)(A)" each place it appears.
20	(C) Section 434(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C.
21	629d(a)(2)(A)) is amended by striking
22	" $436(b)(4)(B)$ " and inserting " $436(b)(3)(B)$ ".
23	(D) Section 437(b)(1) (42 U.S.C.
24	629g(b)(1)) is amended by striking " $436(b)(1)$ "
25	and inserting "435".

1	(E) Section $437(f)(3)$ (42 U.S.C.
2	629g(f)(3)) is amended by striking " $436(b)(5)$ "
3	and inserting " $436(b)(4)$ ".
4	(F) Section 438(c) (42 U.S.C. 629g(c)) is
5	amended in each of paragraphs (1) through (3)
6	is amended by striking "436(b)(2)" and insert-
7	ing "436(b)(1)".
8	SEC. 116. REPORT ON POST ADOPTION AND SUBSIDIZED
9	GUARDIANSHIP SERVICES.
10	(a) In General.—Within 2 years after the date of
11	the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
12	Human Services shall prepare and submit to the Com-
13	mittee on Ways and Means of the House of Representa-
14	tives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report
15	on children who enter into foster care under the super-
16	vision of a State administering a plan approved under part
17	B or E of title IV of the Social Security Act after finaliza-
18	tion of an adoption or legal guardianship.
19	(b) Information.—The Secretary shall include in
20	the report information, to the extent available through the
21	Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System
22	and other data sources, regarding the incidence of adop-
23	tion disruption and dissolution affecting children described
24	in subsection (a) and factors associated with such cir-
25	cumstances, including—

- 1 (1) whether affected individuals received pre- or 2 post-legal adoption services; and 3 (2) other relevant information, such as the age 4 of the child involved. 5 Post-adoption SERVICES AND GUARDIAN-SHIP.—The Secretary shall include in the report— 6 7 (1) a summary of post-adoption services and 8 guardianship in each State that are available to fam-9 ilies that adopted children from foster care and the extent to which the services are evidence-based or 10 11 evidence-informed. 12 (2) a summary of funding and funding sources 13 for the services in each State, including set-asides 14 under the Promoting Safe and Stable Families pro-15 gram. 16 SEC. 117. EFFECTIVE DATE. 17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this title shall take effect on October 1, 2025, and shall apply 18 to payments under part B of title IV of the Social Security 19 Act for calendar quarters beginning on or after such date. 21 (b) Delay Permitted if State Legislation Re-22 QUIRED.—If the Secretary of Health and Human Services
- 25 developed pursuant to part B of title IV of the Social Se-

determines that State legislation (other than legislation

appropriating funds) is required in order for a State plan

- 1 curity Act to meet the additional requirements imposed
- 2 by the amendments made by this title, the plan shall not
- 3 be regarded as failing to meet any of the additional re-
- 4 quirements before the 1st day of the 1st calendar quarter
- 5 beginning after the first regular session of the State legis-
- 6 lature that begins after the date of the enactment of this
- 7 Act. For purposes of the preceding sentence, if the State
- 8 has a 2-year legislative session, each year of the session
- 9 is deemed to be a separate regular session of the State
- 10 legislature.
- 11 (c) Application to Programs Operated by In-
- 12 DIAN TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—In the case of an Indian
- 13 tribe, tribal organization, or tribal consortium that the
- 14 Secretary of Health and Human Services determines re-
- 15 quires time to take action necessary to comply with the
- 16 additional requirements imposed by the amendments made
- 17 by this Act (whether the tribe, organization, or tribal con-
- 18 sortium has a plan under section 479B of the Social Secu-
- 19 rity Act or a cooperative agreement or contract entered
- 20 into with a State), the Secretary shall provide the tribe,
- 21 organization, or tribal consortium with such additional
- 22 time as the Secretary determines is necessary for the tribe,
- 23 organization, or tribal consortium to take the action to
- 24 comply with the additional requirements before being re-
- 25 garded as failing to comply with the requirements.

1 TITLE II—STRENGTHENING

2 STATE AND TRIBAL CHILD

3 **SUPPORT**

- 4 SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.
- 5 This title may be cited as the "Strengthening State
- 6 and Tribal Child Support Enforcement Act".
- 7 SEC. 202. IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TRIBAL
- 8 CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.
- 9 (a) Improving the Collection of Past-due
- 10 CHILD SUPPORT THROUGH STATE AND TRIBAL PARITY
- 11 IN THE ALLOWABLE USE OF TAX INFORMATION.—
- 12 (1) Amendment to the social security
- 13 ACT.—Section 464 of the Social Security Act (42)
- 14 U.S.C. 664) is amended by adding at the end the
- 15 following:
- 16 "(d) Applicability to Indian Tribes and Tribal
- 17 Organizations Receiving a Grant Under This
- 18 Part.—This section, except for the requirement to dis-
- 19 tribute amounts in accordance with section 457, shall
- 20 apply to an Indian tribe or tribal organization receiving
- 21 a grant under section 455(f) in the same manner in which
- 22 this section applies to a State with a plan approved under
- 23 this part.".
- 24 (2) Amendments to the internal revenue
- 25 CODE.—

1	(A) Section 6103(a)(2) of the Internal
2	Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking
3	"any local child support enforcement agency"
4	and inserting "any tribal or local child support
5	enforcement agency".
6	(B) Section 6103(a)(3) of such Code is
7	amended by inserting ", (8)" after "(6)".
8	(C) Section 6103(l) of such Code is
9	amended—
10	(i) in paragraph (6)—
11	(I) by striking "or local" in sub-
12	paragraph (A) and inserting "tribal,
13	or local";
14	(II) by striking "AND LOCAL" in
15	the heading thereof and inserting
16	"TRIBAL, AND LOCAL";
17	(III) by striking "The following"
18	in subparagraph (B) and inserting
19	"The";
20	(IV) by striking the colon and all
21	that follows in subparagraph (B) and
22	inserting a period; and
23	(V) by adding at the end the fol-
24	lowing:

1	"(D) State, tribal, or local child
2	SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—For pur-
3	poses of this paragraph, the following shall be
4	treated as a State, tribal, or local child support
5	enforcement agency:
6	"(i) Any agency of a State or political
7	subdivision thereof operating pursuant to a
8	plan described in section 454 of the Social
9	Security Act which has been approved by
10	the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
11	ices under part D of title IV of such Act.
12	"(ii) Any child support enforcement
13	agency of an Indian tribe or tribal organi-
14	zation receiving a grant under section
15	455(f) of the Social Security Act.";
16	(ii) in paragraph (8)—
17	(I) in subparagraph (A), by strik-
18	ing "or State or local" and inserting
19	", State, tribal, or local";
20	(II) in subparagraph (B), by
21	striking "enforced pursuant to a plan
22	described" and all that follows
23	through "of such Act" and inserting
24	"enforced pursuant to the provisions

1	of part D of title IV of the Social Se-
2	curity Act";
3	(III) by adding at the end of sub-
4	paragraph (B) the following: "The in-
5	formation disclosed to any child sup-
6	port enforcement agency under sub-
7	paragraph (A) with respect to any in-
8	dividual with respect to whom child
9	support obligations are sought to be
10	established or enforced may be dis-
11	closed by such agency to any agent of
12	such agency which is under contract
13	with such agency for purposes of, and
14	to the extent necessary in, estab-
15	lishing and collecting child support
16	obligations from, and locating, individ-
17	uals owing such obligations.";
18	(IV) by striking subparagraph
19	(C) and inserting the following:
20	"(C) STATE, TRIBAL, OR LOCAL CHILD
21	SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—For pur-
22	poses of this paragraph, the term 'State, tribal,
23	or local child support enforcement agency' has
24	the same meaning as when used in paragraph
25	(6)(D)."; and

1	(V) by striking "AND LOCAL" in
2	the heading thereof and inserting
3	"TRIBAL, AND LOCAL"; and
4	(iii) in paragraph (10)(B), by adding
5	at the end the following new clause:
6	"(iii) The information disclosed to any
7	child support enforcement agency under
8	subparagraph (A) with respect to any indi-
9	vidual with respect to whom child support
10	obligations are sought to be established or
11	enforced may be disclosed by such agency
12	to any agent of such agency which is under
13	contract with such agency for purposes of,
14	and to the extent necessary in, establishing
15	and collecting child support obligations
16	from, and locating, individuals owing such
17	obligations.".
18	(D) Section $6103(p)(4)$ of such Code is
19	amended—
20	(i) by striking "subsection (l)(10),
21	(13)(A), (13)(B), (13)(C), (13)(D)(i), (16),
22	(18), (19), or (20), or any entity" in the
23	matter preceding subparagraph (A) and in-
24	serting "subsection $(l)(6)$, (8) , (10) ,
25	(13)(A), (13)(B), (13)(C), (13)(D)(i), (16),

1	(18), (19), or (20), or any Indian tribe or
2	tribal organization receiving a grant under
3	section 455(f) of the Social Security Act,
4	or any entity";
5	(ii) by striking "subsection (l)(10)" in
6	subparagraph (F)(i) and inserting "sub-
7	section (l)(6), (8), (10)";
8	(iii) by striking "subsection (l)(10),
9	(13)(A), (13)(B), (13)(C), (13)(D)(i), (16),
10	(18), (19), or (20) or any entity" each
11	place it appears in the matter following
12	subparagraph (F)(iii) and inserting "sub-
13	section (l)(6), (8), (10), (13)(A), (13)(B),
14	(13)(C), $(13)(D)(i)$, (16) , (18) , (19) , or
15	(20), or any Indian tribe or tribal organi-
16	zation receiving a grant under section
17	455(f) of the Social Security Act, or any
18	entity"; and
19	(iv) by inserting ", (8)" after "para-
20	graph (6)(A)" in the matter following sub-
21	paragraph (F)(iii).
22	(E) Section 6103(p)(9) of such Code is
23	amended by striking "or local" and inserting
24	"tribal, or local".

1	(F) Section 6402(c) of such Code is
2	amended by adding at the end the following
3	"For purposes of this subsection, any reference
4	to a State shall include a reference to any In-
5	dian tribe or tribal organization receiving a
6	grant under section 455(f) of the Social Secu-
7	rity Act.".
8	(b) Reimbursement for Reports.—Section
9	453(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(g)) is
10	amended—
11	(1) in the subsection heading, by striking
12	"State"; and
13	(2) by striking "and State" and inserting "
14	State, and tribal".
15	(c) Technical Amendments.—Paragraphs (7) and
16	(33) of section 454 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
17	654) are each amended by striking "450b" and inserting
18	"5304".
	Passed the House of Representatives September 18,
	2024.

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER, Attest: Clerk.