

Union Calendar No. 574

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9076

[Report No. 118–679]

To reauthorize and modernize part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to strengthen child welfare services, expand the availability of prevention services to better meet the needs of vulnerable families, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 2024

Mr. LAHOOD (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

Additional sponsors: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. CHU, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CAREY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SMUCKER, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. ESTES, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. DELBENE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 22, 2024]

A BILL

To reauthorize and modernize part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to strengthen child welfare services, expand the availability of prevention services to better meet the needs of vulnerable families, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.**

4 (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This Act may be cited as the “Pro-*
 5 *tecting America’s Children by Strengthening Families Act”.*

6 (b) *REFERENCES.*—*Except as otherwise expressly pro-*
 7 *vided, wherever in this Act an amendment or repeal is ex-*
 8 *pressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section*
 9 *or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be*
 10 *made to that section or other provision of the Social Secu-*
 11 *rity Act.*

12 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

13 *The table of contents of this Act is as follows:*

Sec. 1. Short title; references.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. Reauthorization of child welfare programs.

Sec. 4. Enhancements to the court improvement program.

Sec. 5. Expanding regional partnership grants to address parental substance use
disorder as cause of child removal.

Sec. 6. Modernization; reducing administrative burden.

Sec. 7. Streamlining funding for Indian tribes.

Sec. 8. Accelerating access to Family First prevention services.

Sec. 9. Strengthening support for youth aging out of foster care.

Sec. 10. Recognizing the importance of relative and kinship caregivers.

Sec. 11. Avoiding neglect by addressing poverty.

Sec. 12. Strengthening support for caseworkers.

Sec. 13. Demonstration projects for improving relationships between incarcerated
parents and children in foster care.

Sec. 14. Guidance to States on improving data collection and reporting for youth
in residential treatment programs.

Sec. 15. Streamlining research, training, and technical assistance funding.

Sec. 16. Report on post adoption and subsidized guardianship services.

Sec. 17. Effective date.

14 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF CHILD WELFARE PROGRAMS.**

15 (a) *REAUTHORIZATION OF SUBPART 1; DISCRE-*
 16 *TIONARY FUNDING.*—*Section 425 (42 U.S.C. 625) is*

1 amended by striking “2017 through 2023” and inserting
2 “2025 through 2029”.

3 (b) *REAUTHORIZATION OF SUBPART 2; ENHANCED*
4 *SUPPORT*.—Section 436(a) (42 U.S.C. 629f(a)) is amended
5 by striking “each of fiscal years 2017 through 2023” and
6 inserting “fiscal year 2025 and \$420,000,000 for each of
7 fiscal years 2026 through 2029”.

8 (c) *REAUTHORIZATION OF SUBPART 2; DISCRE-*
9 *TIONARY FUNDING*.—Section 437(a) (42 U.S.C. 629g(a)) is
10 amended by striking “2017 through 2023” and inserting
11 “2025 through 2029”.

12 (d) *FUNDING LIMITATION*.—Section 423(a)(2)(A) (42
13 U.S.C. 623(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “, not to ex-
14 ceed \$10,000,000” before the semicolon.

15 **SEC. 4. ENHANCEMENTS TO THE COURT IMPROVEMENT**
16 **PROGRAM.**

17 (a) *INCREASE IN RESERVATION OF FUNDS*.—Section
18 436(b)(2) (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(2)) is amended by inserting
19 “for fiscal year 2025 and \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2026
20 and each succeeding fiscal year” before “for grants”.

21 (b) *EXTENSION OF STATE MATCH REQUIREMENT*.—
22 Section 438(d) (42 U.S.C. 629h(d)) is amended by striking
23 “2017 through 2023” and inserting “2025 through 2029”.

24 (c) *PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS*.—Section 438(a) (42
25 U.S.C. 629h(a)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end the
2 *following:*

3 “(F) that determine the appropriateness
4 and best practices for use of technology to con-
5 duct remote hearings, subject to participant con-
6 sent, including to ensure maximum participa-
7 tion of individuals involved in proceedings and
8 to enable courts to maintain operations in times
9 of public health or other emergencies;”;

10 (2) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking “per-
11 sonnel.” and inserting “personnel and supporting op-
12 timal use of remote hearing technology; and”; and

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

14 “(3) to ensure continuity of needed court serv-
15 ices, prevent disruption of the services, and enable
16 their recovery from threats such as public health cri-
17 ses, natural disasters or cyberattacks, including
18 through—

19 “(A) support for technology that allows
20 court proceedings to occur remotely subject to
21 participant consent, including hearings and
22 legal representation;

23 “(B) the development of guidance and pro-
24 tocols for responding to the occurrences and co-
25 ordinating with other agencies; and

1 “(C) *other activities carried out to ensure*
 2 *backup systems are in place.*”.

3 (d) *IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE ON SHARING BEST*
 4 *PRACTICES FOR TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES NEEDED FOR*
 5 *REMOTE COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR FOSTER CARE OR*
 6 *ADOPTION.*—Section 438 (42 U.S.C. 629h) is amended by
 7 *adding at the end the following:*

8 “(e) *GUIDANCE.*—

9 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Every 5 years, the Secretary
 10 *shall issue implementation guidance for sharing in-*
 11 *formation on best practices for—*

12 “(A) *technological changes needed for court*
 13 *proceedings for foster care, guardianship, or*
 14 *adoption to be conducted remotely in a way that*
 15 *maximizes engagement and protects the privacy*
 16 *of participants; and*

17 “(B) *the manner in which the proceedings*
 18 *should be conducted.*

19 “(2) *INITIAL ISSUANCE.*—The Secretary shall
 20 *issue initial guidance required by paragraph (1) with*
 21 *preliminary information on best practices not later*
 22 *than October 1, 2025.*

23 “(3) *ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION.*—The Sec-
 24 *retary shall consult with Indian tribes on the develop-*
 25 *ment of appropriate guidelines for State court pro-*

1 *ceedings involving Indian children to maximize en-*
 2 *gagement of Indian tribes and provide appropriate*
 3 *guidelines on conducting State court proceedings sub-*
 4 *ject to the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (25*
 5 *U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).”.*

6 **SEC. 5. EXPANDING REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS TO**
 7 **ADDRESS PARENTAL SUBSTANCE USE DIS-**
 8 **ORDER AS CAUSE OF CHILD REMOVAL.**

9 *(a) INCREASE IN RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Section*
 10 *436(b)(5) (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(5)) is amended by striking*
 11 *“each of fiscal years 2017 through 2023” and inserting “fis-*
 12 *cal year 2025 and \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2026 and*
 13 *each succeeding fiscal year”.*

14 *(b) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 437(f) (42 U.S.C.*
 15 *629g(f)) is amended—*

16 *(1) in paragraph (3)(A)—*

17 *(A) by striking “In addition to amounts*
 18 *authorized to be appropriated to carry out this*
 19 *section, the” and inserting “The”; and*

20 *(B) by striking “2017 through 2023” and*
 21 *inserting “2025 through 2029”; and*

22 *(2) in paragraph (10), by striking “for each of*
 23 *fiscal years 2017 through 2023”.*

1 (c) *AUTHORITY TO WAIVE PLANNING PHASE.*—Section
 2 437(f)(3)(B)(iii) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(3)(B)(iii)) is amend-
 3 ed—

4 (1) by striking all that precedes “grant award-
 5 ed” and inserting the following:

6 “(iii) *SUFFICIENT PLANNING.*—

7 “(I) *IN GENERAL.*—A”; and

8 (2) by striking “may not exceed \$250,000, and”;
 9 and

10 (3) by adding after and below the end the fol-
 11 lowing:

12 “(II) *EXCEPTION.*—The Secretary,
 13 on a case-by-case basis, may waive the
 14 planning phase for a partnership that
 15 demonstrates that the partnership has
 16 engaged in sufficient planning before
 17 submitting an application for a grant
 18 under this subsection.”.

19 (d) *EXPANDING AVAILABILITY OF EVIDENCE-BASED*
 20 *SERVICES.*—

21 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 437(f)(1) (42 U.S.C.
 22 629g(f)(1)) is amended by inserting “, and expand
 23 the scope of the evidence-based services that may be
 24 approved by the clearinghouse established under sec-
 25 tion 476(d)” before the period.

1 (2) *CONSIDERATIONS FOR AWARDING GRANTS.*—
 2 *Section 437(f)(7) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(7)) is amend-*
 3 *ed—*

4 (A) *by striking “and” at the end of sub-*
 5 *paragraph (D);*

6 (B) *by striking the period at the end of sub-*
 7 *paragraph (E) and inserting “; and”; and*

8 (C) *by adding at the end the following:*

9 “(F) *have submitted information pursuant*
 10 *to paragraph (4)(F) that demonstrates the capa-*
 11 *bility to participate in rigorous evaluation of*
 12 *program effectiveness.”.*

13 (e) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON USING REGIONAL*
 14 *PARTNERSHIP GRANT FUNDS IN COORDINATION WITH*
 15 *OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS TO BETTER SERVE FAMILIES AF-*
 16 *FECTED BY A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.*—*Section 435(d)*
 17 *(42 U.S.C. 629e(d)) is amended—*

18 (1) *by striking “and” at the end of paragraph*
 19 *(4);*

20 (2) *by striking the period at the end of para-*
 21 *graph (5) and inserting “; and”; and*

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

23 “(6) *use grants under section 437(f) in coordina-*
 24 *tion with other Federal funds to better serve families*

1 *in the child welfare system that are affected by a sub-*
 2 *stance use disorder.”.*

3 *(f) PERFORMANCE INDICATORS.—Section 437(f)(8)(A)*
 4 *(42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(8)(A)) is amended in the 1st sentence—*

5 *(1) by striking “this subsection” the 1st place it*
 6 *appears and inserting “the Protecting America’s Chil-*
 7 *dren by Strengthening Families Act”;*

8 *(2) by inserting “child permanency, reunifica-*
 9 *tion, re-entry into care,” before “parental recovery”;*
 10 *and*

11 *(3) by inserting “, and access to services for fam-*
 12 *ilies with substance use disorder, including those with*
 13 *children who are overrepresented in foster care, dif-*
 14 *ficult to place, or have disproportionately low perma-*
 15 *nency rates” before the period.*

16 *(g) PERFORMANCE INDICATOR CONSULTATION RE-*
 17 *QUIRED.—Section 437(f)(8)(B) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(8)(B)) is*
 18 *amended by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (iv) and*
 19 *inserting after clause (ii) the following:*

20 *“(iii) The Administrator of the Na-*
 21 *tional Institute on Drug Abuse.”.*

22 *(h) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 437(f)(9)(B)*
 23 *(42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(9)(B)) is amended—*

24 *(1) by striking “and” at the end of clause (ii);*

1 (2) *by striking the period at the end of clause*
 2 *(iii) and inserting “; and”; and*

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

4 “(iv) *whether any programs funded by*
 5 *the grants were submitted to the clearing-*
 6 *house established under section 476(d) for*
 7 *review and the results of any such review.”.*

8 (i) *PRIORITY FOR STATEWIDE SERVICE GROWTH.—*
 9 *Section 437(f)(7) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(7)), as amended by*
 10 *subsection (d)(2) of this section, is amended—*

11 (1) *by striking “and” at the end of subpara-*
 12 *graph (E);*

13 (2) *by striking the period at the end of subpara-*
 14 *graph (F) and inserting “; and”; and*

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

16 “(G) *are a State or public agency, or out-*
 17 *line a plan to increase the availability of services*
 18 *funded under the grant statewide.”.*

19 (j) *ADDITION OF JUVENILE COURT AS REQUIRED*
 20 *PARTNER.—Section 437(f)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(2)(A))*
 21 *is amended by adding at the end the following:*

22 “(iii) *The most appropriate adminis-*
 23 *trative office of the juvenile court or State*
 24 *court overseeing court proceedings involving*

1 *families who come to the attention of the*
 2 *court due to child abuse or neglect.”.*

3 (k) *ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL PARTNER.*—Section
 4 437(f)(2)(C) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(2)(C)) is amended by redesi-
 5 gnating clause (ix) as clause (x) and inserting after clause
 6 (viii) the following:

7 “(ix) State or local agencies that ad-
 8 minister Federal health care, housing, fam-
 9 ily support, or other related programs.”.

10 (l) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—

11 (1) Section 437(f)(2)(D) (42 U.S.C.
 12 629g(f)(2)(D)) is amended—

13 (A) by adding “and” at the end of clause
 14 (i);

15 (B) by striking “; and” at the end of clause
 16 (ii) and inserting a period; and

17 (C) by striking clause (iii).

18 (2) Section 437(f)(2) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(2)) is
 19 amended by striking subparagraph (B) and redesign-
 20 ating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs
 21 (B) and (C), respectively

22 **SEC. 6. MODERNIZATION; REDUCING ADMINISTRATIVE**
 23 **BURDEN.**

24 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 431 (42 U.S.C. 629a) is
 25 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(c) *USE OF TECHNOLOGY.*—

2 “(1) *USE OF PORTAL.*—*The services referred to*
 3 *in subsection (a) may include the means of access to*
 4 *and use of an electronic or digital portal to facilitate*
 5 *the provision of community support to care for and*
 6 *meet specific needs of families and children.*

7 “(2) *LIMITATION.*—*Such a portal shall not re-*
 8 *tain or share personally identifiable information*
 9 *about a beneficiary without consent or for any pur-*
 10 *pose other than referral.”.*

11 (b) *ALLOWING SUPPORT FOR FAMILY RESOURCE CEN-*
 12 *TERS.*—*Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)) is amended—*

13 (1) *in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “, includ-*
 14 *ing services provided by family resource centers,” be-*
 15 *fore “designed”; and*

16 (2) *by adding at the end the following:*

17 “(10) *FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER.*—

18 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The term ‘family re-*
 19 *source center’ means a community or school-*
 20 *based hub of support services for families that—*

21 “(i) *utilizes an approach that is multi-*
 22 *generational, strengths-based, and family-*
 23 *centered;*

24 “(ii) *reflects, and is responsive to, com-*
 25 *munity needs and interests;*

1 “(iii) provides support at no or low
2 cost for participants; and

3 “(iv) builds communities of peer sup-
4 port for families, including kinship fami-
5 lies, to develop social connections that re-
6 duce isolation and stress.

7 “(B) *SPECIAL RULE.*—For purposes of this
8 subpart, an expenditure for a service provided by
9 a family resource center may be treated as an
10 expenditure for any 1 or more of family support
11 services, family preservation services, family re-
12 unification services, or adoption promotion and
13 support services as long as the expenditure is re-
14 lated to serving the children and families in the
15 specified category and consistent with the overall
16 purpose of the category.”.

17 (c) *UPDATING STATE PLAN REQUIREMENT.*—Section
18 422(b)(1) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(1)) is amended to read as fol-
19 lows:

20 “(1) provide that a State agency will administer
21 or supervise the administration of the plan under this
22 subpart;”.

23 (d) *ACCESS TO LEGAL REPRESENTATION.*—Section
24 422(b)(4) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(4)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
2 graph (A);

3 (2) by adding “and” at the end of subparagraph
4 (B); and

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

6 “(C) the steps that the State will take to en-
7 sure that, with respect to any judicial proceeding
8 involving a child and in which there is an alle-
9 gation of child abuse or neglect, including a pro-
10 ceeding on dependency, adoption, guardianship,
11 or termination of parental rights, information
12 about available independent legal representation
13 is provided to—

14 “(i) the child, as appropriate; and

15 “(ii) any individual who is a parent
16 or guardian, or has legal custody, of the
17 child;”.

18 (e) *SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING*
19 *OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE*.—Section 422(b)(15)(A)
20 (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(15) is amended—

21 (1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

22 (A) by inserting “and, if applicable, the
23 State agency responsible for mental health serv-
24 ices,” before “and in consultation”; and

1 (B) by inserting “mental health providers,”
2 before “other experts”;

3 (2) in clause (ii), by inserting “a list of services
4 provided to support the physical and” before “emo-
5 tional”;

6 (3) in clause (iv), by inserting “and mental
7 health” before “services”;

8 (4) in clause (v), by inserting “, informed con-
9 sent of youth, and compliance with professional prac-
10 tice guidelines” before the semicolon; and

11 (5) in clause (vi), by inserting “, licensed mental
12 health providers,” before “or other”.

13 (f) *REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN.*—

14 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Subpart 3 of part B of title
15 IV (42 U.S.C. 629m) is amended by redesignating
16 section 440 as section 443 and inserting before such
17 section the following:

18 “**SEC. 441. REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN.**

19 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall reduce the
20 burden of administering this part imposed on the recipients
21 of funds under this part, by—

22 “(1) reviewing and revising administrative data
23 collection instruments and forms to eliminate dupli-
24 cation and streamline reporting requirements for the

1 *recipients while collecting all data required under this*
2 *part;*

3 *“(2) in coordination with activities required*
4 *under the Paperwork Reduction Act, conducting an*
5 *analysis of the total number of hours reported by the*
6 *recipients to comply with paperwork requirements*
7 *and exploring, in consultation with the recipients,*
8 *how to reduce the number of hours required for the*
9 *compliance by at least 15 percent;*

10 *“(3) collecting input from the recipients with re-*
11 *spect to fiscal and oversight requirements and making*
12 *changes to ensure consistency with standards and*
13 *guidelines for other Federal formula grant programs*
14 *based on the input; and*

15 *“(4) respecting the sovereignty of Indian tribes*
16 *when complying with this subsection.*

17 *“(b) LIMITATION ON APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a)*
18 *of this section shall not apply to any reporting or data col-*
19 *lection otherwise required by law that would affect the abil-*
20 *ity of the Secretary to monitor and ensure compliance with*
21 *State plans approved under this part or ensure that funds*
22 *are expended consistent with this part.*

23 **“SEC. 442. PUBLIC ACCESS TO STATE PLANS.**

24 *“The Secretary shall—*

1 “(1) create a standardized format for State plans
2 required under sections 422 and 432 used to monitor
3 compliance with those sections;

4 “(2) produce comparisons and analyses of trends
5 in State plans to inform future technical assistance
6 and policy development;

7 “(3) make the State plans available on a public
8 website; and

9 “(4) include on the website aggregated national
10 summaries of State submissions as the Secretary
11 deems appropriate.”.

12 (2) *IMPLEMENTATION*.—Within 2 years after the
13 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
14 Health and Human Services shall—

15 (A) comply with section 441 of the Social
16 Security Act, as added by the amendment made
17 by paragraph (1); and

18 (B) notify each recipient of funds under
19 part B of title IV of the Social Security Act of
20 any change made by the Secretary pursuant to
21 such section affecting the recipient.

22 (3) *REPORT*.—Within 3 years after the date of
23 the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
24 Human Services shall submit to the Committee on
25 Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and

1 *the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report de-*
 2 *scribing the efforts of the Secretary to comply with*
 3 *section 441 of the Social Security Act, as added by*
 4 *the amendment made by paragraph (1), including the*
 5 *specific actions to comply with each paragraph of*
 6 *such section.*

7 (g) *PRIMARY PREVENTION PARTNERS.*—Section
 8 435(a)(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 429e(a)(2)(B)) is amended by in-
 9 serting “including community-based partners with exper-
 10 tise in preventing unnecessary child welfare system involve-
 11 ment” before the semicolon.

12 **SEC. 7. STREAMLINING FUNDING FOR INDIAN TRIBES.**

13 (a) *SUBPART 1.*—

14 (1) *TRIBAL SET-ASIDE; DIRECT PAYMENTS TO*
 15 *TRIBES; EXEMPTIVE AUTHORITY.*—

16 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 428 (42 U.S.C.
 17 628) is amended by striking subsections (a) and
 18 (b) and inserting the following:

19 “(a) *RESERVATION OF FUNDS; DIRECT PAYMENTS.*—
 20 *Out of any amount appropriated pursuant to section 425*
 21 *for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall reserve 3 percent for*
 22 *grants to Indian tribes and tribal organizations, which*
 23 *shall be paid directly to Indian tribes and tribal organiza-*
 24 *tions with a plan approved under this subpart, in accord-*
 25 *ance with section 433(a).”.*

1 (B) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—Section
 2 423(a) (42 U.S.C. 623(a)) is amended by strik-
 3 ing “the sum appropriated pursuant to section
 4 425 for each fiscal year” and inserting “for each
 5 fiscal year, the sum appropriated pursuant to
 6 section 425 remaining after applying section
 7 428(a)”.

8 (C) *TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.*—Section
 9 428(c) (42 U.S.C. 628(c)) is amended by striking
 10 “450b” and inserting “5304”.

11 (2) *IMPROVING COMPLIANCE WITH THE INDIAN*
 12 *CHILD WELFARE ACT.*—

13 (A) *STATE PLAN REQUIREMENT.*—Section
 14 422(b)(9) (42 U.S.C. 622(b)(9)) is amended by
 15 striking “Act;” and inserting “Act of 1978, in-
 16 cluding how the State will ensure timely notice
 17 to Indian tribes of State custody proceedings in-
 18 volving Indian children, foster care or adoptive
 19 placements of Indian children, and case record-
 20 keeping as such matters relate to transfers of ju-
 21 risdiction, termination of parental rights, and
 22 active efforts;”.

23 (B) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—Subpart 1 of
 24 part B of title IV (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) is
 25 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 429B. EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDIAN**
2 **CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978.**

3 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than October 1, 2025,
4 *the Secretary, in consultation with Indian tribal organiza-*
5 *tions and States, shall develop a plan and provide technical*
6 *assistance supporting effective implementation of the In-*
7 *dian Child Welfare Act of 1978, including specific measures*
8 *identified in State plans as required by section 422(b)(9)*
9 *of this Act. The technical assistance plan shall be based on*
10 *data sufficient to assess State strengths and areas for im-*
11 *provement in implementing Federal standards established*
12 *under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, including, at*
13 *a minimum, the following:*

14 “(1) *Timely identification of Indian children*
15 *and extended family members.*

16 “(2) *Timely tribal notice of State child custody*
17 *proceedings involving an Indian child.*

18 “(3) *Reports of cases in which a transfer of ju-*
19 *risdiction (as defined under the Indian Child Welfare*
20 *Act of 1978) was granted or was not granted, and*
21 *reasons specified for denial in cases where transfer*
22 *was denied.*

23 “(4) *In cases in which a State court orders a fos-*
24 *ter care placement of an Indian child, whether re-*
25 *quirements for active efforts to prevent the breakup of*

1 *the Indian family, testimony of a qualified expert*
2 *witness, and evidentiary standards were met.*

3 “(5) *Whether an Indian child was placed in a*
4 *placement that is required to be preferred under the*
5 *Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, and if not, the rea-*
6 *sons specified.*

7 “(6) *In cases in which a State court orders the*
8 *termination of parental rights to an Indian child,*
9 *whether requirements for active efforts to prevent the*
10 *breakup of the Indian family, testimony of a qualified*
11 *expert witness, and evidentiary standards were met.*

12 “(b) *INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—On request of the*
13 *Secretary, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide the*
14 *Secretary with such guidance and assistance as may be nec-*
15 *essary to facilitate informing States and public child wel-*
16 *fare agencies on how to comply with the Indian Child Wel-*
17 *fare Act of 1978, including specific measures identified in*
18 *State plans as required by section 422(b)(9) of this Act.*

19 “(c) *BIENNIAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Sec-*
20 *retary shall biennially submit to the Committee on Ways*
21 *and Means of the House of Representatives and the Com-*
22 *mittee on Finance of the Senate a written report on how—*

23 “(1) *the States are complying with the Indian*
24 *Child Welfare Act of 1978 and section 422(b)(9) of*

1 *this Act, as informed by data collected under this sec-*
 2 *tion; and*

3 *“(2) the Secretary is assisting States and Indian*
 4 *tribes to improve implementation of Federal stand-*
 5 *ards established under the Indian Child Welfare Act*
 6 *of 1978.”.*

7 *(3) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; ADMINISTRA-*
 8 *TIVE COSTS.—*

9 *(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 428 (42 U.S.C.*
 10 *628) is amended by redesignating subsection (c)*
 11 *as subsection (d) and inserting before such sub-*
 12 *section the following:*

13 *“(b) AUTHORITY TO STREAMLINE REPORTING RE-*
 14 *QUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with*
 15 *the affected Indian tribes, modify any reporting require-*
 16 *ment imposed by or under this part on an Indian tribe,*
 17 *tribal organization, or tribal consortium if the total of the*
 18 *amounts allotted to the Indian tribe, tribal organization,*
 19 *or tribal consortium under this part for the fiscal year is*
 20 *not more than \$50,000, and in a manner that limits the*
 21 *administrative burden on any tribe to which not more than*
 22 *\$50,000 is allotted under this subpart for the fiscal year.*

23 *“(c) TRIBAL AUTHORITY TO SUBSTITUTE THE FED-*
 24 *ERAL NEGOTIATED INDIRECT COST RATE FOR ADMINIS-*
 25 *TRATIVE COSTS CAP.—For purposes of sections 422(b)(14)*

1 *and 424(e), an Indian tribal organization may elect to have*
 2 *the weighted average of the indirect cost rates in effect under*
 3 *part 220 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations with respect*
 4 *to the administrative costs of the Indian tribal organization*
 5 *apply in lieu of the percentage specified in each such sec-*
 6 *tion.”.*

7 (B) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section*
 8 *431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)) is amended in each*
 9 *of paragraphs (5) and (6) by striking “428(c)”*
 10 *and inserting “428(d)”.*

11 (b) *SUBPART 2.—*

12 (1) *TRIBAL PLAN EXEMPTION.—Section*
 13 *432(b)(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 629b(b)(2)(B)) is amended—*

14 (A) *by striking “section 433(a)” the 1st*
 15 *place it appears and inserting “sections 433(a)*
 16 *and 437(c)(1) combined”; and*

17 (B) *by striking “section 433(a)” the 2nd*
 18 *place it appears and inserting “such sections”.*

19 (2) *APPLICATION OF TRIBAL SET-ASIDE BEFORE*
 20 *OTHER SET-ASIDES.—Section 436(b)(3) (42 U.S.C.*
 21 *429f(b)(3)) is amended by striking “After applying*
 22 *paragraphs (4) and (5) (but before applying para-*
 23 *graphs (1) or (2)), the” and inserting “The”.*

24 (3) *INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR TRIBAL COURT*
 25 *IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—Section 438(c)(3) (42*

6 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 435 (42 U.S.C. 629e) is
7 amended by adding at the end the following:

10 “(1) *PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of this subsection*
11 *is to authorize the Secretary to make competitive*
12 *grants to support the timely evaluation of—*

15 “(B) kinship navigator programs described
16 in section 474(a)(7).

•HR 9076 RH

1 “(3) *APPLICATIONS.*—

2 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*An eligible entity may*
3 *apply to the Secretary for a grant under this*
4 *subsection to carry out a project that meets the*
5 *following requirements:*

6 “(i) *The project is designed in accord-*
7 *ance with paragraph (2).*

8 “(ii) *The project is to be carried out by*
9 *the applicant in partnership with—*

10 “(I) *a State agency that admin-*
11 *isters, or supervises the administration*
12 *of, the State plan approved under part*
13 *E, or an agency administering the*
14 *plan under the supervision of the State*
15 *agency; and*

16 “(II) *if the applicant is unable or*
17 *unwilling to do so, at least 1 external*
18 *evaluator to carry out the evaluation of*
19 *the service or program provided by the*
20 *applicant.*

21 “(B) *CONTENTS.*—*The application shall*
22 *contain the following:*

23 “(i) *A description of the project, in-*
24 *cluding—*

1 “(I) a statement explaining why a
2 grant is necessary to carry out the
3 project; and

4 “(II) the amount of grant funds
5 that would be disbursed to each entity
6 described in subparagraph (A)(ii) in
7 partnership with the applicant.

8 “(ii) A certification from each entity
9 described in subparagraph (A)(ii) that pro-
10 vides assurances that the individual or enti-
11 ty is in partnership with the applicant and
12 will fulfill the responsibilities of the entity
13 specified in the description provided pursu-
14 ant to clause (i) of this subparagraph.

15 “(iii) A certification from the appli-
16 cant that provides assurances that the ap-
17 plicant intends to comply with subpara-
18 graph (A)(ii)(II), if applicable.

19 “(iv) At the option of the eligible enti-
20 ty, a certification from the applicant that
21 the applicant requires an external evaluator
22 secured by the Secretary pursuant to para-
23 graph (5), if applicable.

1 “(4) *PRIORITIES.*—*In approving applications*
2 *under this subsection, the Secretary shall prioritize*
3 *the following:*

4 “(A) *Addressing, with respect to the clear-*
5 *inghouse of practices described in section*
6 *476(d)(2), deficiencies or gaps identified by the*
7 *Secretary in consultation with—*

8 “(i) *States, political subdivisions of a*
9 *State, and tribal communities carrying out,*
10 *or receiving the benefits of, a service or pro-*
11 *gram; and*

12 “(ii) *child welfare experts, including*
13 *individuals with lived experience.*

14 “(B) *Maximizing the number of evidence-*
15 *based services or programs to be included in the*
16 *clearinghouse of practices described in section*
17 *476(d)(2).*

18 “(C) *Timely completion of evaluations and*
19 *the production of evidence.*

20 “(D) *Supporting services or programs that*
21 *are based on, or are adaptations to new popu-*
22 *lation settings of, a service or program with reli-*
23 *able evidence about the benefits and risks of the*
24 *service or program.*

1 “(5) *AVAILABILITY OF EXTERNAL EVAL-*
2 *UATORS.*—

3 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Before accepting appli-*
4 *cations under this subsection, the Secretary shall*
5 *make reasonable efforts to identify at least 1 en-*
6 *tity to serve as an external evaluator for any eli-*
7 *gible entity that includes a certification under*
8 *paragraph (3)(B)(iv) with an application under*
9 *this subsection.*

10 “(B) *NO EFFECT ON CONSIDERATION OF AP-*
11 *PLICATION.*—*The Secretary may not consider*
12 *whether an eligible entity is in partnership with*
13 *an external evaluator described in paragraph*
14 *(A) in approving an application under this sub-*
15 *section submitted by the eligible entity.*

16 “(6) *REPORTS.*—

17 “(A) *BY GRANT RECIPIENTS.*—*Within 1*
18 *year after receiving a grant under this sub-*
19 *section, and every year thereafter for the next 5*
20 *years, the grant recipient shall submit to the*
21 *Secretary a written report on—*

22 “(i) *the use of grant funds;*

23 “(ii) *whether the program or service*
24 *evaluated by the project meets a require-*

1 *ment specified in section 471(e)(4)(C), in-*
2 *cluding information about—*

3 *“(I) how the program or service is*
4 *being carried out in accordance with*
5 *standards specified in the requirement;*

6 *“(II) any outcomes of the pro-*
7 *gram or service; and*

8 *“(III) any outcome with respect to*
9 *which the service or program compares*
10 *favorably to a comparison practice;*
11 *and*

12 *“(iii) whether the Secretary has in-*
13 *cluded the program or service in an update*
14 *to the clearinghouse of practices described in*
15 *section 476(d)(2).*

16 *“(B) BY THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary*
17 *shall submit to the Committee on Ways and*
18 *Means of the House of Representatives and to the*
19 *Committee on Finance of the Senate an annual*
20 *written report on—*

21 *“(i) the grants awarded under this*
22 *subsection;*

23 *“(ii) the programs funded by the*
24 *grants;*

1 “(iii) any technical assistance provided
2 by the Secretary in carrying out this sub-
3 section, including with respect to the efforts
4 to secure external evaluators pursuant to
5 paragraph (5); and

6 “(iv) any efforts by the Secretary to
7 support program evaluation and review
8 pursuant to section 471(e) and inclusion of
9 programs in the pre-approved list of serv-
10 ices and programs described in section
11 471(e)(4)(D) or the clearinghouse of prac-
12 tices described in section 476(d)(2).

13 “(7) *FUNDING.*—

14 “(A) *LIMITATIONS.*—Of the amounts avail-
15 able to carry out this subsection, the Secretary
16 may use not more than 5 percent to provide tech-
17 nical assistance.

18 “(B) *CARRYOVER.*—Amounts made avail-
19 able to carry out this subsection shall remain
20 available until expended.

21 “(8) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this subsection:

22 “(A) *ELIGIBLE ENTITY.*—The term ‘eligible
23 entity’ means any of the following providing a
24 service or program or, in the sole determination

1 *of the Secretary, able to provide a service or pro-*
 2 *gram if awarded a grant under this subsection:*

3 “(i) *A State, a political subdivision of*
 4 *a State, or an agency or department of a*
 5 *State or political subdivision of a State.*

6 “(ii) *An entity described in subpara-*
 7 *graph (A) or (B) of section 426(a)(1).*

8 “(iii) *An Indian tribe or tribal organi-*
 9 *zation.*

10 “(B) *EXTERNAL EVALUATOR.—The term*
 11 *‘external evaluator’ means an entity with the*
 12 *ability and willingness to evaluate a service or*
 13 *program pursuant to paragraph (2) that is not*
 14 *provided by the entity.*

15 “(C) *SERVICE OR PROGRAM.—The term*
 16 *‘service or program’—*

17 “(i) *means a service or program de-*
 18 *scribed in section 471(e); and*

19 “(ii) *includes a kinship navigator pro-*
 20 *gram described in section 474(a)(7).”.*

21 (b) *FUNDING.—Section 437(b) (42 U.S.C. 629g(b)) is*
 22 *amended by adding at the end the following:*

23 “(5) *PREVENTIVE SERVICES EVALUATION PART-*
 24 *NERSHIPS.—The Secretary shall reserve \$5,000,000*

1 *for grants under section 435(f) for each of fiscal years*
 2 *2026 through 2029.”.*

3 **SEC. 9. STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR YOUTH AGING OUT**
 4 **OF FOSTER CARE.**

5 (a) *CASEWORKER VISITS.*—Section 422(b)(17) (42
 6 U.S.C. 622(b)(17)) is amended by inserting “, and include
 7 a description of how the State may offer virtual caseworker
 8 visits to youth in care who have attained the age of 18 years
 9 and provided informed consent for virtual visits” before the
 10 semicolon.

11 (b) *YOUTH AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN CHILD WEL-*
 12 *FARE PROGRAM PLANNING.*—Section 432(b)(1) (42 U.S.C.
 13 629b(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

14 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall approve
 15 a plan that meets the requirements of subsection (a)
 16 only if—

17 “(A) the plan was developed jointly by the
 18 Secretary and the State, and the State, in devel-
 19 oping the plan, consulted with—

20 “(i) appropriate public and nonprofit
 21 private agencies;

22 “(ii) community-based organizations
 23 involved in providing services for children
 24 and families in the areas of family preser-
 25 vation, family support, family reunifica-

tion, foster care, kinship, and adoption promotion and support;

“(iii) parents with child welfare experience, foster parents, adoptive parents, and kinship caregivers; and

“(iv) children, youth, and young adults with experience in the child welfare system, including State boards and councils comprised of youth with lived experience who represent the diversity of children in the State to whom the plan would apply; and

“(B) the State has made publicly accessible on a website of the State agency a report that outlines how the State has implemented the suggestions of the children and youth referred to in subparagraph (A)(iv).”.

SEC. 10. RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIVE AND KINSHIP CAREGIVERS.

(a) *IN GENERAL*.—Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)), as amended by section 6(b)(2) of this Act, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph

(A)—

1 (i) by striking “children” and insert-
2 ing “children, youth,”; and

3 (ii) by striking “adoptive and ex-
4 tended” and inserting “kinship and adop-
5 tive”;

6 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “par-
7 ents and other caregivers (including foster par-
8 ents)” and inserting “parents, kinship care-
9 givers, and foster parents”;

10 (C) by striking “and” at the end of sub-
11 paragraph (E);

12 (D) by striking the period at the end of sub-
13 paragraph (F) and inserting “; and”; and

14 (E) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(G)(i) peer-to-peer mentoring and support
16 programs with demonstrated experience fostering
17 constructive relationships between children and
18 families and mentors with relevant lived experi-
19 ence or interactions with the child welfare sys-
20 tem; and

21 “(ii) for purposes of this subpart, an ex-
22 penditure for a service described in clause (i)
23 may be treated as an expenditure for any 1 or
24 more of family support services, family preserva-
25 tion services, family reunification services, or

1 *adoption promotion and support services, as long*
 2 *as the expenditure is related to serving the chil-*
 3 *dren and families in the specified category and*
 4 *consistent with the overall purpose of the cat-*
 5 *egory.”;*

6 *(2) in paragraph (2)(B)—*

7 *(A) in clause (i), by striking “children” and*
 8 *inserting “children, youth,”; and*

9 *(B) in clause (ii), by striking “extended”*
 10 *and inserting “kinship”;*

11 *(3) in paragraph (7)(A), by inserting “with kin-*
 12 *ship caregivers or” before “in a foster family home”;*
 13 *and*

14 *(4) by adding at the end the following:*

15 *“(11) YOUTH.—The term ‘youth’ means an indi-*
 16 *vidual who has not attained 26 years of age.”.*

17 *(b) KINSHIP NAVIGATORS.—*

18 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 427 (42 U.S.C. 627)*
 19 *is amended—*

20 *(A) in the section heading, by striking*

21 **“FAMILY CONNECTION GRANTS”** *and insert-*
 22 *ing “**KINSHIP NAVIGATORS**”;*

23 *(B) in subsection (a)—*

1 (i) in the matter preceding paragraph
 2 (1), by striking “helping” and inserting
 3 “administering programs to help”;

4 (ii) by striking “of—” and all that fol-
 5 lows through “a kinship” and inserting “of
 6 a kinship”;

7 (iii) in paragraph (1)(C)—

8 (I) by striking “and” at the end
 9 of clause (iii);

10 (II) by adding “and” at the end
 11 of clause (iv); and

12 (III) by adding at the end the fol-
 13 lowing:

14 “(v) connections to individualized as-
 15 sistance, as needed;”;

16 (iv) by striking paragraphs (2)
 17 through (4);

18 (v) by redesignating subparagraphs
 19 (A) through (G) of paragraph (1) as para-
 20 graphs (1) through (7), respectively;

21 (vi) by redesignating clauses (i)
 22 through (iv) and clause (v) (as added by
 23 clause (iii)(III) of this subparagraph) as
 24 subparagraphs (A) through (E), respec-
 25 tively;

1 (vii) by moving each provision so re-
2 designated 2 ems to the left; and

3 (viii) by striking “caregiving;” and in-
4 serting “caregiving.”;

5 (C) in subsection (b)—

6 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “1 or
7 more of”;

8 (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (3)
9 and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respec-
10 tively, and inserting after paragraph (2)
11 the following:

12 “(3) a description of how the entity will directly
13 fund, or provide data to the Secretary for, an evalua-
14 tion which will publish and submit information to
15 the clearinghouse described in section 476(d)(2) and
16 which is designed to meet the requirements of section
17 471(e)(4)(C), or a description of how the funds will
18 be used to help the State transition to a program for
19 which the State will seek reimbursement under section
20 474(a)(7);”;

21 (iii) in paragraph (4) (as so redesign-
22 ated), by striking “and” at the end;

23 (iv) in paragraph (5) (as so redesign-
24 ated), by striking the period and inserting
25 “; and”; and

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

2 “(6) if the entity is a State, local or tribal child
3 welfare agency—

4 “(A) documentation of support from a rel-
5 evant community-based organization with expe-
6 rience serving kinship families when applicable;
7 or

8 “(B) a description of how the organization
9 plans to coordinate its services and activities
10 with those offered by the relevant community-
11 based organizations.”;

12 (D) by striking subsection (d) and inserting
13 the following:

14 “(d) *FEDERAL SHARE*.—An entity to which a grant
15 is made under this section may use the grant to pay not
16 more than 75 percent of the cost of the activities to be car-
17 ried out by the entity pursuant to this section.”;

18 (E) in subsection (g)—

19 (i) by striking all that precedes “2 per-
20 cent” and inserting the following:

21 “(g) *RESERVATION OF FUNDS FOR TECHNICAL AS-*
22 *SISTANCE*.—The Secretary may reserve”; and

23 (ii) by striking “subsection (h)” the
24 2nd place it appears and inserting “section
25 437(b)(6)”; and

1 *(F) by striking subsection (h).*

2 *(2) RESERVATION OF DISCRETIONARY FUNDS.—*
 3 *Section 437(b) (42 U.S.C. 629g(b)), as amended by*
 4 *section 8(b) of this Act, is amended by adding at the*
 5 *end the following:*

6 *“(6) KINSHIP NAVIGATORS.—The Secretary shall*
 7 *reserve \$10,000,000 for grants under section 427 for*
 8 *each of fiscal years 2026 through 2029.”.*

9 *(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section*
 10 *474(a)(7) (42 U.S.C. 674(a)(7)) is amended by strik-*
 11 *ing “427(a)(1)” and inserting “427(a)”.*

12 **SEC. 11. AVOIDING NEGLECT BY ADDRESSING POVERTY.**

13 *(a) FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES.—Section*
 14 *431(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)(1)), as amended by section*
 15 *10(a)(1) of this Act, is amended—*

16 *(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” after*
 17 *the semicolon;*

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

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

21 *“(H)(i) services providing nonrecurring*
 22 *short term benefits (including supports related to*
 23 *housing instability, utilities, transportation, and*
 24 *food assistance, among other basic needs) that*
 25 *address immediate needs related to a specific cri-*

1 *sis, situation, or event affecting the ability of a*
 2 *child to remain in a home established for the*
 3 *child that is not intended to meet an ongoing*
 4 *need; and*

5 *“(ii) for purposes of this subpart, an ex-*
 6 *penditure for a service described in clause (i)*
 7 *may be treated as an expenditure for any 1 or*
 8 *more of family support services, family preserva-*
 9 *tion services, family reunification services, or*
 10 *adoption promotion and support services as long*
 11 *as the expenditure is related to serving the chil-*
 12 *dren and families in the specified category and*
 13 *consistent with the overall purpose of the cat-*
 14 *egory.”.*

15 *(b) STATE PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Section 432(a) (42*

16 *U.S.C. 629b(a)) is amended—*

17 *(1) in paragraph (9), by striking “and” after the*
 18 *semicolon;*

19 *(2) in paragraph (10), by striking the period*
 20 *and inserting “; and”; and*

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

22 *“(11) provides a description of policies in place,*
 23 *including training for employees, to address child*
 24 *welfare reports and investigations of neglect con-*
 25 *cerning the living arrangements or subsistence needs*

1 of a child with the goal to prevent the separation of
 2 a child from a parent of the child solely due to pov-
 3 erty, to ensure access to services described in section
 4 431(a)(1)(H).”.

5 **SEC. 12. STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR CASEWORKERS.**

6 (a) *REAUTHORIZATION OF, AND INCREASE IN FUND-*
 7 *ING FOR, CASEWORKER VISITS.*—Section 436(b)(4)(A) (42
 8 *U.S.C. 629f(b)(4)(A)) is amended by striking “each of fiscal*
 9 *years 2017 through 2023” and inserting “fiscal year 2025*
 10 *and \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2026 and each succeeding*
 11 *fiscal year”.*

12 (b) *MINIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.*—Section 433(e) (42
 13 *U.S.C. 629c(e)) is amended by striking paragraphs (1) and*
 14 *(2) and inserting the following:*

15 “(1) *BASE ALLOTMENT.*—From the amount re-
 16 served pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fiscal
 17 year, the Secretary shall first allot to each State
 18 (other than an Indian tribe) that has provided to the
 19 Secretary such documentation as may be necessary to
 20 verify that the jurisdiction has complied with section
 21 436(b)(4)(B)(ii) during the fiscal year, a base allot-
 22 ment of \$100,000, and shall then allot to each of those
 23 States an amount determined in paragraph (2) or (3)
 24 of this subsection, as applicable.

1 “(2) *TERRITORIES.*—*From the amount reserved*
 2 *pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fiscal year*
 3 *that remains after applying paragraph (1) of this*
 4 *subsection for the fiscal year, the Secretary shall allot*
 5 *to each jurisdiction specified in subsection (b) of this*
 6 *section to which a base allotment is made under such*
 7 *paragraph (1) an amount determined in the same*
 8 *manner as the allotment to each of such jurisdictions*
 9 *is determined under section 423 (without regard to*
 10 *the initial allotment of \$70,000 to each State).*

11 “(3) *OTHER STATES.*—*From the amount re-*
 12 *served pursuant to section 436(b)(4)(A) for any fiscal*
 13 *year that remains after applying paragraphs (1) and*
 14 *(2) of this subsection for the fiscal year, the Secretary*
 15 *shall allot to each State (other than an Indian tribe)*
 16 *not specified in subsection (b) of this section to which*
 17 *a base allotment was made under paragraph (1) of*
 18 *this subsection an amount equal to such remaining*
 19 *amount multiplied by the supplemental nutrition as-*
 20 *sistance program benefits percentage of the State (as*
 21 *defined in subsection (c)(2) of this section) for the fis-*
 22 *cal year, except that in applying subsection (c)(2)(A)*
 23 *of this section, ‘subsection (e)(3)’ shall be substituted*
 24 *for ‘such paragraph (1)’.”.*

1 (c) *REQUIREMENT TO USE FUNDS TO IMPROVE QUAL-*
 2 *ITY OF CASEWORKER VISITS WITH FOSTER CHILDREN.*—
 3 *Section 436(b)(4)(B)(i) (42 U.S.C. 629f(b)(4)(B)(i)) is*
 4 *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 children*
 17 *and on activities designed to increase*
 18 *retention, recruitment, and training of*
 19 *caseworkers;*

20 “(II) *implementing technology so-*
 21 *lutions to streamline caseworker duties*
 22 *and modernize systems, ensuring im-*
 23 *proved efficiency and effectiveness in*
 24 *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; and
 6 “(V) recruitment campaigns
 7 aimed at attracting qualified case-
 8 worker candidates.”.

9 (d) *ELIMINATION OF COST-SHARE PENALTY TIED TO*
 10 *MONTHLY CASEWORKER VISIT STANDARD.*—Section 424(f)
 11 (42 U.S.C. 624(f)) is amended—

12 (1) by striking “(1)(A)”; and
 13 (2) by striking paragraphs (1)(B) and (2).

14 **SEC. 13. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS FOR IMPROVING RE-**
 15 **LATIONSHIPS BETWEEN INCARCERATED PAR-**
 16 **ENTS AND CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.**

17 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 439 (42 U.S.C. 629i) is
 18 amended to read as follows:

19 **“SEC. 439. STATE PARTNERSHIP PLANNING AND DEM-**
 20 **ONSTRATION GRANTS TO SUPPORT MEAN-**
 21 **INGFUL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN FOSTER**
 22 **CHILDREN AND THE INCARCERATED PAR-**
 23 **ENTS OF THE CHILDREN.**

24 “(a) *AUTHORITY.*—

1 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary may make*
2 *demonstration grants to eligible State partnerships to*
3 *develop, implement, and provide support for pro-*
4 *grams that enable and sustain meaningful relation-*
5 *ships between covered foster children and the incarcer-*
6 *ated parents of the children.*

7 “(2) *PAYMENT OF ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS.*—*The*
8 *Secretary shall pay each demonstration grant in 5*
9 *annual installments.*

10 “(3) *1-YEAR PLANNING GRANTS.*—*The Secretary*
11 *may make a planning grant to a recipient of a dem-*
12 *onstration grant, to be paid to the recipient 1 year*
13 *before payment of the 1st annual installment of the*
14 *demonstration grant and in an amount not greater*
15 *than any installment of the demonstration grant, if—*

16 “(A) *the recipient includes a request for a*
17 *planning grant in the application under sub-*
18 *section (c); and*

19 “(B) *the Secretary determines that a plan-*
20 *ning grant would assist the recipient and im-*
21 *prove the effectiveness of the demonstration*
22 *grant.*

23 “(b) *ELIGIBLE STATE PARTNERSHIP DEFINED.*—

1 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*In this section, the term ‘eli-*
2 *gible State partnership’ means an agreement entered*
3 *into by, at a minimum, the following:*

4 “(A) *The State child welfare agency respon-*
5 *sible for the administration of the State plans*
6 *under this part.*

7 “(B) *The State agency responsible for adult*
8 *corrections.*

9 “(2) *ADDITIONAL PARTNERS.*—*For purposes of*
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 welfare*
18 *agencies (or a consortium of the agencies), the part-*
19 *nership shall be considered an eligible State partner-*
20 *ship for purposes of this section.*

21 “(c) *APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.*—*An eligible State*
22 *partnership seeking a demonstration grant under this sec-*
23 *tion to carry out a program described in subsection (a)(1)*
24 *shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time,*
25 *in such manner, and containing such information as the*

1 *Secretary may require. The application shall include the*
2 *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 ac-*
9 *tivities described in subsection (d) that are in the best*
10 *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 ex-*
14 *tent practicable, coordination of data between*
15 *relevant State child welfare agencies and court*
16 *systems; and*

17 “(B) *the roles and responsibilities of the en-*
18 *tities 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, in-*
24 *cluding demographic information disaggregated by*
25 *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 ac-*
4 *tivities are in the best interest of the covered foster child,*
5 *the activities referred to in subsection (c)(2) shall include*
6 *the following:*

7 “(1) *REVISION OF POLICIES.*—*Through consulta-*
8 *tion with incarcerated parents and their families,*
9 *grantees shall promote organizational policies of par-*
10 *ticipating child welfare entities and collaborating cor-*
11 *rectional facilities to promote meaningful relation-*
12 *ships through regular and developmentally appro-*
13 *priate communication and visitation between covered*
14 *foster children and the incarcerated parents, includ-*
15 *ing, 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 of*
23 *a child, any changes to a case, permanency*
24 *plans, requirements to maintain parental*

1 *rights, and any efforts to terminate paren-*
2 *tal 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 are
3 not available to promote regular con-
4 tact;

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 on
13 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 to
22 promote a meaningful relationship for purposes
23 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 the
7 caseworkers of the covered foster child to strengthen
8 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 cost
14 of any activity carried out using a grant made under this
15 section shall be not greater than 75 percent.

16 “(f) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, EVALUATIONS, AND RE-*
17 *PORTS.*—

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

4 “(C) conducting an annual technical assist-
5 ance and training meeting and an annual
6 grantee meeting so that grantees can learn from
7 the experiences of other grantees.

8 “(2) *EVALUATIONS.*—*The Secretary shall con-*
9 *duct an evaluation of program outcomes, including*
10 *with respect to parent and child well-being, parent-*
11 *child interactions, parental involvement, awareness of*
12 *child development and parenting practices, placement*
13 *stability, and termination of parental rights with re-*
14 *spect to covered foster children and incarcerated par-*
15 *ents, to measure program effectiveness, as determined*
16 *by the Secretary, and identify opportunities for im-*
17 *proved program practices and implementation.*

18 “(3) *REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.*—

19 “(A) *INITIAL REPORT.*—*Not later than 3*
20 *years after the date of the enactment of this sec-*
21 *tion, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee*
22 *on Ways and Means of the House of Representa-*
23 *tives and the Committee on Finance of the Sen-*
24 *ate 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 under
20 this section.

21 “(B) *FINAL REPORT*.—Not later than 6
22 years after the date of the enactment of this sec-
23 tion, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee
24 on Ways and Means of the House of Representa-

1 *tives and the Committee on Finance of the Sen-*
 2 *ate 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 (e)*
 14 *or modify an application requirement imposed by or*
 15 *under subsection (c) if the Secretary determines that*
 16 *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 trib-*
 20 *ally 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 APPROPRIA-*
 24 *TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-*

1 retary not more than \$35,000,000 for each of fiscal years
2 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 Fed-
8 eral, State, or local correctional facility.”.

9 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—

10 (1) Section 431(a)(2)(B)(vii) (42 U.S.C.
11 629a(a)(2)(B)(vii)) is amended by striking “(as de-
12 fined in section 439(b)(2))”.

13 (2) Section 431(a) (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)), as
14 amended by sections 6(b)(2) and 10(a)(4) of this Act,
15 is amended by adding at the end the following:

16 “(12) *MENTORING.*—The term ‘mentoring’ means
17 a structured, managed program in which children are
18 appropriately matched with screened and trained
19 adult volunteers for one on-one relationships, involv-
20 ing meetings and activities on a regular basis, in-
21 tended to meet, in part, the child’s need for involve-
22 ment with a caring and supportive adult who pro-
23 vides a positive role model.”.

1 **SEC. 14. 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 Medicare*
8 *and Medicaid Services, the Administration for Community*
9 *Living, the Department of Justice, and other relevant policy*
10 *experts, as determined by the Secretary, shall issue and dis-*
11 *seminate, or update and revise, as applicable, guidance to*
12 *State agencies in administering State plans approved*
13 *under parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act*
14 *on the following:*

15 *(1) Best practices for Federal and State agencies*
16 *to collect data and share information related to the*
17 *well-being of youth residing in residential treatment*
18 *facilities, including those facilities operating in mul-*
19 *tiple States or serving out-of-state youth.*

20 *(2) Best practices on improving State collection*
21 *and sharing of data related to incidences of maltreat-*
22 *ment of youth residing in residential treatment facili-*
23 *ties, including with respect to meeting the require-*
24 *ment of section 471(a)(9)(A) of such Act for such*
25 *youth in foster care.*

1 (3) *Best practices on improving oversight of*
 2 *youth residential programs receiving Federal funding,*
 3 *and research-based strategies for risk assessment re-*
 4 *lated to the health, safety, and well-being of youth in*
 5 *the facilities.*

6 **SEC. 15. STREAMLINING RESEARCH, TRAINING, AND TECH-**
 7 **NICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING.**

8 (a) *REPURPOSING DISCRETIONARY RESEARCH SET-*
 9 *ASIDE.*—Section 435(c) (42 U.S.C. 629e(c)) *is amended to*
 10 *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 437(b)(1)*
 14 *for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall use not less than—*

15 “(1) \$1,000,000 *for technical assistance to grant-*
 16 *ees under section 437(f) and to support design of local*
 17 *site evaluations with the goal of publishing and sub-*
 18 *mitting evaluation findings to the clearinghouse es-*
 19 *tablished under section 476(d), or to award grants to*
 20 *allow current or former grantees under section 437(f)*
 21 *to analyze, publish, and submit to the clearinghouse*
 22 *data collected during past grants; and*

23 “(2) \$1,000,000 *for technical assistance required*
 24 *under section 429B of this Act to support effective im-*
 25 *plementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978*

1 *and to support development of associated State plan*
 2 *measures described pursuant to section 422(b)(9) of*
 3 *this Act.”.*

4 ***(b) ELIMINATION OF RESEARCH SET-ASIDE FROM***
 5 ***MANDATORY FUNDS.—***

6 ***(1) IN GENERAL.—****Section 436(b) (42 U.S.C.*
 7 *629f(b)), as amended by the preceding provisions of*
 8 *this Act, is amended by striking paragraph (1) and*
 9 *redesignating paragraphs (2) through (5) as para-*
 10 *graphs (1) through (4), respectively.*

11 ***(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—***

12 ***(A)*** *Section 433(a) (42 U.S.C. 629c(a)) is*
 13 *amended by striking “436(b)(3)” and inserting*
 14 *“436(b)(2)”.*

15 ***(B)*** *Section 433(e) (42 U.S.C. 629c(e)), as*
 16 *amended by section 12(b) of this Act, is amended*
 17 *by striking “436(b)(4)(A)” and inserting*
 18 *“436(b)(3)(A)” each place it appears.*

19 ***(C)*** *Section 434(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C.*
 20 *629d(a)(2)(A)) is amended by striking*
 21 *“436(b)(4)(B)” and inserting “436(b)(3)(B)”.*

22 ***(D)*** *Section 437(b)(1) (42 U.S.C.*
 23 *629g(b)(1)) is amended by striking “436(b)(1)”*
 24 *and inserting “435”.*

1 (E) Section 437(f)(3) (42 U.S.C. 629g(f)(3))
 2 is amended by striking “436(b)(5)” and insert-
 3 ing “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. 16. REPORT ON POST ADOPTION AND SUBSIDIZED**
 9 **GUARDIANSHIP SERVICES.**

10 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Within 2 years after the date of the
 11 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human
 12 Services shall prepare and submit to the Committee on
 13 Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the
 14 Committee on Finance of the Senate a report on children
 15 who enter into foster care under the supervision of a State
 16 administering a plan approved under part B or E of title
 17 IV of the Social Security Act after finalization of an adop-
 18 tion or legal guardianship.

19 (b) *INFORMATION.*—The Secretary shall include in the
 20 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 adoption
 23 disruption and dissolution affecting children described in
 24 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 of*
 4 *the child involved.*

5 (c) *POST-ADOPTION SERVICES AND GUARDIANSHIP.—*
 6 *The Secretary shall include in the report—*

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*
 10 *extent to which the services are evidence-based or evi-*
 11 *dence-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. 17. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

17 (a) *IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this Act*
 18 *shall take effect on October 1, 2025, and shall apply to pay-*
 19 *ments under part B of title IV of the Social Security Act*
 20 *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*
 23 *determines that State legislation (other than legislation ap-*
 24 *propriating funds) is required in order for a State plan*
 25 *developed pursuant to part B of title IV of the Social Secu-*

1 rity Act to meet the additional requirements imposed by
2 the amendments made by this Act, the plan shall not be
3 regarded as failing to meet any of the additional require-
4 ments before the 1st day of the 1st calendar quarter begin-
5 ning after the first regular session of the State legislature
6 that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act. For
7 purposes of the preceding sentence, if the State has a 2-
8 year legislative session, each year of the session is deemed
9 to be a separate regular session of the State legislature.

10 (c) *APPLICATION TO PROGRAMS OPERATED BY INDIAN*
11 *TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.*—*In the case of an Indian tribe,*
12 *tribal organization, or tribal consortium that the Secretary*
13 *of Health and Human Services determines requires time*
14 *to take action necessary to comply with the additional re-*
15 *quirements imposed by the amendments made by this Act*
16 *(whether the tribe, organization, or tribal consortium has*
17 *a plan under section 479B of the Social Security Act or*
18 *a cooperative agreement or contract entered into with a*
19 *State), the Secretary shall provide the tribe, organization,*
20 *or tribal consortium with such additional time as the Sec-*
21 *retary determines is necessary for the tribe, organization,*
22 *or tribal consortium to take the action to comply with the*
23 *additional requirements before being regarded as failing to*
24 *comply with the requirements.*

Union Calendar No. 574

118TH CONGRESS
2^D Session

H. R. 9076

[Report No. 118-679]

A BILL

To reauthorize and modernize part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to strengthen child welfare services, expand the availability of prevention services to better meet the needs of vulnerable families, and for other purposes.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed