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1ST SESSION

H. R. 2210

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 25 (legislative day, JULY 21), 2003

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education,
Labor, and Pensions

AN ACT

To reauthorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, 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 “School Readiness Act
3 of 2003”.

4 **TITLE I—HEAD START REAU-**
5 **THORIZATION AND PROGRAM**
6 **IMPROVEMENTS**

7 **SEC. 101. PURPOSE.**

8 Section 636 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831)
9 is amended to read as follows:

10 **“SEC. 636. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

11 “It is the purpose of this subchapter to promote
12 school readiness by enhancing the development of low-in-
13 come children, through educational instruction in
14 prereading skills, premathematics skills, and language,
15 and through the provision to low-income children and their
16 families of health, educational, nutritional, social and
17 other services that are determined, based on family needs
18 assessments, to be necessary.”.

19 **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.**

20 Section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832)
21 is amended as follows:

22 (1) In paragraph (17) by striking “, but for fis-
23 cal years” and all that follows down to the period.

24 (2) By adding the following at the end thereof:

25 “(18) The term ‘eligible entities’ means an in-
26 stitution of higher education or other agency with

1 expertise in delivering training in early childhood de-
2 velopment, family support, and other assistance de-
3 signed to improve the quality of early childhood edu-
4 cations programs.

5 “(19) The term ‘homeless children’ has the
6 meaning given such term in subtitle B of title VII
7 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
8 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).”.

9 **SEC. 103. AUTHORIZATION.**

10 Section 639 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9834)
11 is amended to read as follows:

12 **“SEC. 639. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-
14 propriated for carrying out the provisions of this sub-
15 chapter \$6,870,000,000 for the fiscal year 2004,
16 \$6,988,750,000 for fiscal year 2005, \$7,106,500,000 for
17 fiscal year 2006, \$7,245,000,000 for fiscal year 2007, and
18 \$7,427,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

19 “(b) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—From the amount ap-
20 propriated under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make
21 available not more than \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2004,
22 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2005
23 through 2008 to carry out such other research, dem-
24 onstration, and evaluation activities, including longitu-
25 dinal studies, under section 649.

1 “(1) not more than \$7,000,000 for each of fis-
2 cal years 2004 through 2008 to carry out impact
3 studies under section 649(g); and

4 “(2) not more than \$13,000,000 for fiscal year
5 2004, and such sums as may be necessary for each
6 of fiscal years 2005 through 2008, to carry out
7 other research, demonstration, and evaluation activi-
8 ties, including longitudinal studies, under section
9 649.

10 “(c) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—There are au-
11 thorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal
12 years 2004 through 2008 to assist participating States
13 with the administrative expenses associated with imple-
14 menting a program under section 643A.”.

15 **SEC. 104. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS; LIMITATIONS ON ASSIST-**
16 **ANCE.**

17 Section 640 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835)
18 is amended as follows:

19 (1) In subsection (a)(2):

20 (A) By striking “1998” in subparagraph
21 (A) and inserting “2003”.

22 (B) By amending subparagraph (B) to
23 read as follows:

24 “(B) payments, subject to paragraph (7) to
25 Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the

1 Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands of
2 the United States;”.

3 (2) By striking the last sentence of paragraph
4 (2) of subsection (a).

5 (3)(A) By amending subsection (a)(2)(C) to
6 read as follows:

7 “(C) training and technical assistance activities
8 that are sufficient to meet the needs associated with
9 program expansion and to foster program and man-
10 agement improvement as described in section 648 of
11 this subchapter, in an amount for each fiscal year
12 which is equal to one percent of the amount appro-
13 priated for such fiscal year, of which—

14 “(i) not less than 50 percent shall be made
15 available to local Head Start agencies to comply
16 with the standards described in section
17 641A(a)(1), of which not less than 50 percent
18 shall be used to comply with the standards de-
19 scribed in section 641A(a)(1)(B) and for the
20 uses described in clauses (iii), (iv), and (vii) of
21 subsection (a)(3)(B);

22 “(ii) not less than 30 percent shall be
23 made available to support a State system of
24 early childhood education training and technical
25 assistance;

1 “(iii) not less than 20 percent shall be
2 made available to the Secretary to assist local
3 programs in meeting the standards described in
4 section 641A(a)(1); and

5 “(iv) not less than \$3,000,000 of the
6 amount in clause (iii) appropriated for such fis-
7 cal year shall be made available to carry out ac-
8 tivities described in section 648(c)(4);”.

9 (B) By inserting the following at the end of
10 subsection (a)(2):

11 “Of an additional one percent of the amount appropriated
12 for such fiscal year, the Secretary shall use not less than
13 25 percent of such funds to fund the expansion of services
14 to migrant and seasonal Head Start children. If sufficient
15 migrant and seasonal eligible children are not available to
16 use such funds, then enrollment priority shall be given to
17 other disadvantaged populations referred to in subpara-
18 graph (A). Not less than 60 percent of such one percent
19 amount shall be used to fund quality improvement
20 activities as described in sec 640(a)(3)(B) and (C)”.

21 (4) In subsection (a)(3)(A) by inserting at the
22 end thereof:

23 “(iii) After the reservation of amounts under para-
24 graph (2) and the 60 percent amount referred to in sub-
25 paragraph (A) of this paragraph, a portion of the remain-

1 ing funds shall be made available for quality to expand
2 services to underserved populations, such as children re-
3 ceiving services under the Early Head Start and Migrant
4 and Seasonal Head Start programs.”.

5 (5) In subsection (a)(3)(A)(i)(I) by striking
6 “1999” and all that follows down to the semicolon
7 and inserting “2004 through 2008”.

8 (6) By amending subsection (a)(3)(B) to read
9 as follows:

10 “(B) Funds reserved under this paragraph (referred
11 to in this paragraph as ‘quality improvement funds’) shall
12 be used to accomplish any or all of the following goals:

13 (i) Ensuring that Head Start programs meet
14 or exceed standards pursuant to section 641A(a)(1).

15 (ii) Ensuring that such programs have ade-
16 quate numbers of qualified staff, and that such staff
17 is furnished adequate training, including developing
18 skills to promote the development of language skills,
19 premathematic skills, and prereading in young chil-
20 dren and in working with children with non-English
21 language background, children referred by child wel-
22 fare services, and children with disabilities, when ap-
23 propriate.

24 (iii) Developing and financing the salary scales
25 described under section 644(a) and section 653, in

1 order to ensure that salary levels and benefits are
2 adequate to attract and retain qualified staff for
3 such programs.

4 “(iv) Using salary increases to improve staff
5 qualifications, and to assist with the implementation
6 of programs specifically designed to enable lead in-
7 structors to become more effective educators, for the
8 staff of Head Start programs, and to encourage the
9 staff to continually improve their skills and expertise
10 by informing the staff of the availability of Federal
11 and State incentive and loan forgiveness programs
12 for professional development.

13 “(v) Improving community-wide strategic plan-
14 ning and needs assessments for such programs and
15 collaboration efforts for such programs, including
16 collaborations to increase program participation by
17 underserved populations of eligible children.

18 “(vi) Ensuring that the physical environments
19 of Head Start programs are conducive to providing
20 effective program services to children and families,
21 and are accessible to children with disabilities and
22 their parents.

23 “(vii) Ensuring that such programs have quali-
24 fied staff that can promote language skills and lit-
25 eracy growth of children and that can provide chil-

1 dren with a variety of skills that have been identi-
2 fied, through scientifically based reading research, as
3 predictive of later reading achievement.

4 “(viii) Providing assistance to complete post-
5 secondary course work needed to attain bacca-
6 laureate degrees in early childhood education.

7 “(ix) Making such other improvements in the
8 quality of such programs as the Secretary may des-
9 ignate.

10 “(x) To promote the regular attendance and
11 stability of highly mobile children, including migrant
12 and homeless children.”.

13 (7) By amending subsection (a)(3)(C) to read
14 as follows:

15 “(C) Quality improvement funds shall be used to
16 carry out any or all of the following activities:

17 “(i)(I) Not less than one-half of the amount re-
18 served under this paragraph, to improve the com-
19 pensation (including benefits) of classroom teachers
20 and other staff of Head Start agencies providing in-
21 structional services and thereby enhancing recruit-
22 ment and retention of qualified staff, including re-
23 cruitment and retention pursuant to achieving the
24 requirements set forth in section 648A(a). The ex-
25 penditure of funds under this clause shall be subject

1 to section 653. Salary increases, in excess of cost-of-
2 living allowance, provided with such funds shall be
3 subject to the specific standards governing salaries
4 and salary increases established pursuant to section
5 644(a).

6 “(II) If a Head Start agency certifies to the
7 Secretary for such fiscal year that part of the funds
8 set aside under subclause (I) to improve wages can-
9 not be expended by such agency to improve wages
10 because of the operation of section 653, then such
11 agency may expend such part for any of the uses
12 specified in this subparagraph (other than wages).

13 “(III) From the remainder of the amount re-
14 served under this paragraph (after the Secretary
15 carries out subclause (I)), the Secretary shall carry
16 out any or all of the activities described in clauses
17 (ii) through (vii), placing the highest priority on the
18 activities described in clause (ii).

19 “(ii) To train classroom teachers and other
20 staff to meet the education standards described in
21 section 641A(a)(1)(B), through activities—

22 “(I) to promote children’s language and
23 prereading growth, through techniques identi-
24 fied through scientifically based reading re-
25 search;

1 “(II) to promote the acquisition of the
2 English language for non-English background
3 children and families;

4 “(III) to foster children’s school readiness
5 skills through activities described in section
6 648A(a)(1); and

7 “(IV) to educate and provide training nec-
8 essary to improve the qualifications particularly
9 with respect to such assistance to enable more
10 instructors to meet the degree requirements
11 under section 648A(a)(2)(A) and to support
12 staff training, child counseling, and other serv-
13 ices necessary to address the problems of chil-
14 dren participating in Head Start programs, in-
15 cluding children from dysfunctional families,
16 children who experience chronic violence in their
17 communities, and children who experience sub-
18 stance abuse in their families.

19 “(iii) To employ additional Head Start staff, in-
20 cluding staff necessary to reduce the child-staff ratio
21 lead instructors who meet the qualifications of sec-
22 tion 648A(a) and staff necessary to coordinate a
23 Head Start program with other services available to
24 children participating in such program and to their
25 families.

1 “(iv) To pay costs incurred by Head Start
2 agencies to purchase insurance (other than employee
3 benefits) and thereby maintain or expand Head
4 Start services.

5 “(v) To supplement amounts provided under
6 paragraph (2)(C) to provide training necessary to
7 improve the qualifications of the staff of the Head
8 Start agencies, and to support staff training, child
9 counseling, and other services necessary to address
10 the problems of children participating in Head Start
11 programs, including children from dysfunctional
12 families, children who experience chronic violence in
13 their communities, and children who experience sub-
14 stance abuse in their families.

15 “(vi) To conduct outreach to homeless families
16 in an effort to increase the program participation of
17 eligible homeless children.

18 “(vii) Such other activities as the Secretary
19 may designate.

20 “(viii) To conduct outreach to migrant and sea-
21 sonal farm-working families and families with chil-
22 dren with a limited English proficiency.”.

23 (8) In subsection (a)(4) by striking “1998” in
24 subparagraph (A) and inserting “2003”.

25 (9) In subsection (a)(5)(B)—

1 (A) by striking “may” and inserting
2 “shall”; and

3 (B) by inserting “early childhood edu-
4 cation” after “regarding”.

5 (10) By amending subsection (a)(5)(C) to read
6 as follows:

7 “(C) In order to improve results for children, a State
8 that receives a grant under subparagraph (B) shall—

9 (i) appoint an individual to serve as the State
10 Director of Collaboration between—

11 (I) the appropriate regional office of the
12 Administration for Children and Families;

13 (II) the State educational agency;

14 (III) the State Department of Health and
15 Human Services;

16 (IV) the State agency that oversees child
17 care;

18 (V) the State agency that assists children
19 with developmental disabilities;

20 (VI) the State Head Start Association;

21 (VII) the State network of child care re-
22 source and referral agencies;

23 (VIII) local educational agencies;

24 (IX) community-based and faith-based or-
25 ganizations;

1 “(X) State representatives of migrant and
2 seasonal Head Start programs;

3 “(XI) State representatives of Indian Head
4 Start programs;

5 “(XII) State and local providers of early
6 childhood education and child care; and

7 “(XIII) other entities carrying out pro-
8 grams serving low-income children and families
9 in the State;

10 “(ii) ensure that the State Director of Collabo-
11 ration holds a position with sufficient authority and
12 access to ensure that the collaboration described in
13 subparagraph (B) is effective and involves a range
14 of State agencies;

15 “(iii) involve the entities described in section
16 clause (i) to develop a strategic plan for the coordi-
17 nated outreach to identify eligible children and im-
18 plementation strategies based on a needs assessment
19 conducted by the Office of the State Director of Col-
20 laboration which shall include an assessment of the
21 availability of high quality prekindergarten services
22 for low-income children in the State. Such assess-
23 ment shall be completed within one year after the
24 date of enactment of the ‘School Readiness Act of
25 2003’ and be updated on an annual basis and shall

1 be made available to the general public within the
2 State;

3 “(iv) ensure that the collaboration described in
4 subparagraph (B) involves coordination of Head
5 Start services with health care, welfare, child care,
6 child protective services, education, and community
7 service activities, family literacy services, activities
8 relating to children with disabilities (including co-
9 ordination of services with those State officials who
10 are responsible for administering part C and section
11 619 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education
12 Act), and services for homeless children (including
13 coordination of services with the Office of Coordi-
14 nator for Education of Homeless Children and
15 Youth designated under section 722 (g)(1)(J)(ii) of
16 the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance
17 Improvements Act of 2001;

18 “(v) consult with the chief State school officer,
19 local educational agencies, and representatives of
20 local Head Start agencies and providers of early
21 childhood education and care in unified planning re-
22 garding early care and education services at both the
23 State and local levels, including collaborative efforts
24 to develop school readiness standards; and

1 “(vi) consult with the chief State school officer,
2 local educational agencies, State child care adminis-
3 trators, State human services administrators, rep-
4 resentatives of local resource and referral agencies,
5 local early childhood councils, providers of early
6 childhood education and care and other relevant
7 State and local agencies, and representatives of the
8 State Head Start Associations to plan for the provi-
9 sion of full-working-day, full calendar year early care
10 and education services for children.”.

11 (11) By amending clause (i) of subsection
12 (a)(5)(D) by inserting “and providers of services
13 supporting early childhood education and child care”
14 after “Associations”.

15 (12) By amending subsection (a)(6)(A) to read
16 as follows:

17 “(A) From amounts reserved and allotted pursuant
18 to paragraphs (2) and (4), the Secretary shall use, for
19 grants for programs described in section 645A(a) of this
20 subchapter, a portion of the combined total of such
21 amounts equal to at least 10 percent for fiscal years 2004
22 through 2008, of the amount appropriated pursuant to
23 section 639(a), except as provided in subparagraph (B).”.

24 (13) By inserting the following before the pe-
25 riod at the end of subsection (f): “, including models

1 that leverage the existing capacity and capabilities of
2 the delivery system of early childhood education and
3 child care”.

4 (14) By inserting the following after “manner
5 that will” in subsection (g)(2)(G): “leverage the ex-
6 isting delivery systems of such services and”.

7 (15) By amending subsection (g)(2)(C) to read
8 as follows:

9 “(C) the extent to which the applicant has un-
10 dertaken community-wide strategic planning and
11 needs assessments involving other community orga-
12 nizations and public agencies serving children and
13 families (including organizations and agencies pro-
14 viding family support services and protective services
15 to children and families, and organizations serving
16 families in whose homes English is not the language
17 customarily spoken), and organizations and public
18 entities serving children with disabilities and home-
19 less children (including the local educational agency
20 liaison designated under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of
21 the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance
22 Improvements Act of 2001);”.

23 (16) By inserting in subsection (g)(2)(H) after
24 “serving the community involved” the following: “,
25 including the liaison designated under section

1 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless
2 Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001,”.

3 (17) By adding the following new subsections at
4 the end thereof:

5 “(m) ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS CHILDREN.—The
6 Secretary shall by regulation prescribe policies and proce-
7 dures to remove barriers to the enrollment and participa-
8 tion of eligible homeless children in Head Start programs.
9 Such regulations shall require Head Start agencies to:

10 “(1) implement policies and procedures to en-
11 sure that eligible homeless children are identified
12 and prioritized for enrollment,

13 “(2) allow homeless families to apply to, enroll
14 in and attend Head Start programs while required
15 documents, such as proof of residency, immunization
16 and other medical records, birth certificates and
17 other documents, are obtained within a reasonable
18 time frame, and

19 “(3) coordinate individual Head Start centers
20 and programs with efforts to implement Subtitle
21 VII–B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
22 Act.

23 “(n) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this Act shall
24 be construed to require a State to establish a program
25 of early education for children in the State, to require any

1 child to participate in a program of early education, to
2 attend school, or to participate in any initial screening
3 prior to participation in such program, except as provided
4 under section 612(a)(3), (consistent with section
5 614(a)(1)(C)), of the Individuals with Disabilities Edu-
6 cation Act.

7 “(o) MATERIALS.—All curricula and instructional
8 materials funded under this subchapter shall be scientif-
9 ically based and age appropriate. Parents shall have the
10 ability to inspect, upon request, any curricula or instruc-
11 tional materials.”.

12 **SEC. 105. DESIGNATION OF AGENCIES.**

13 Section 641 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836)
14 is amended as follows:

15 (1) In subsection (a)—

16 (A) by inserting after “community” in the
17 first place it appears “, including a community-
18 based or faith-based organization”;

19 (B) by inserting “(1)” after “(a)”;

20 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and
21 (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

22 and

23 (D) by adding the following at the end
24 thereof:

1 “(2) In order to be designated as a Head Start agen-
2 cy and to receive a grant under this subchapter, a grantee
3 shall establish grantee-determined goals for improving the
4 school readiness of children participating in a program
5 under this subchapter, which shall include goals for—

6 “(A) educational instruction in prereading,
7 premathematical, and language skills; and

8 “(B) the provision of health, educational, nutri-
9 tional, social, and other services.

10 “(3) In order to receive a grant subsequent to the
11 initial grant provided following the date of enactment of
12 this subchapter, the grantee shall demonstrate that it has
13 met the goals described in paragraph (2).

14 “(4) Progress in meeting such goals shall not be
15 measured primarily or solely by the results of assess-
16 ments.”.

17 (2) By amending subsection (c) to read as fol-
18 lows:

19 “(c) In the administration of the provisions of this
20 section, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the chief
21 executive officer of the State involved if such State ex-
22 pends non-Federal funds to carry out Head Start pro-
23 grams, give priority in the designation of Head Start
24 agencies to any local public or private nonprofit or for-
25 profit agency which is receiving funds under any Head

1 Start program on the date of the enactment of this Act
2 that fulfills the program and financial management re-
3 quirements, standards described in section 641A(a)(1), re-
4 sults-based performance measures developed by the Sec-
5 retary under section 641A(b), or other requirements es-
6 tablished by the Secretary.”.

7 (3) By amending subsection (d) to read as fol-
8 lows:

9 “(d) If no entity in a community is entitled to the
10 priority specified in subsection (c), then the Secretary may
11 designate a Head Start agency from among qualified ap-
12 plicants in such community. In selecting from among
13 qualified applicants for designation as a Head Start agen-
14 cy, the Secretary shall give priority to any qualified agency
15 that functioned as a Head Start delegate agency in the
16 community and carried out a Head Start program that
17 the Secretary determines met or exceeded such perform-
18 ance standards and such results-based performance meas-
19 ures. In selecting from among qualified applicants for des-
20 ignation as a Head Start agency, the Secretary shall con-
21 sider the effectiveness of each such applicant to provide
22 Head Start services, based on—

23 “(1) any past performance of such applicant in
24 providing services comparable to Head Start serv-

1 ices, including how effectively such applicant pro-
2 vided such comparable services;

3 “(2) the capacity of such applicant to serve eli-
4 gible children with scientifically-based programs that
5 promote school readiness of children participating in
6 the program;

7 “(3) the plan of such applicant to meet stand-
8 ards set forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular
9 attention to the standards set forth in subpara-
10 graphs (A) and (B) of such section;

11 “(4) the plan of such applicant to provide com-
12 prehensive health, nutritional, educational, social,
13 and other services needed to prepare children to suc-
14 ceed in school;

15 “(5) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
16 the Head Start program it proposes to carry out
17 with other preschool programs, including Early
18 Reading First and Even Start programs under title
19 I, part B, subparts 1 and 2 of the Elementary and
20 Secondary Education Act of 1965; other preschool
21 programs carried out under title I of the Act; pro-
22 grams under part C and section 619 of the Individ-
23 uals with Disabilities Education Act; State pre-
24 kindergarten programs; and with the educational

1 programs such children will enter at the age of com-
2 pulsory school attendance;

3 “(6) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
4 the Head Start program it proposes to carry out
5 with private entities with resources available to as-
6 sist the Head Start Program meet its program
7 needs;

8 “(7) the plan of such applicant—

9 “(A) to seek the involvement of parents of
10 participating children in activities (at home and
11 in the center involved where practicable) de-
12 signed to help such parents become full part-
13 ners in the education of their children;

14 “(B) to afford such parents the oppor-
15 tunity to participate in the development, con-
16 duct, and overall performance of the program
17 at the local level;

18 “(C) to offer (directly or through referral
19 to local entities, such as entities carrying out
20 Even Start programs under part B of chapter
21 1 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
22 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2741 et
23 seq.), public and school libraries, and family
24 support programs) to such parents—

25 “(i) family literacy services; and

1 “(ii) parenting skills training;

2 “(D) to offer to parents of participating
3 children substance abuse counseling (either di-
4 rectly or through referral to local entities), in-
5 cluding information on drug-exposed infants
6 and fetal alcohol syndrome;

7 “(E) at the option of such applicant, to
8 offer (directly or through referral to local enti-
9 ties) to such parents—

10 “(i) training in basic child develop-
11 ment;

12 “(ii) assistance in developing commu-
13 nication skills;

14 “(iii) opportunities for parents to
15 share experiences with other parents; or

16 “(iv) any other activity designed to
17 help such parents become full partners in
18 the education of their children;

19 “(F) to provide, with respect to each par-
20 ticipating family, a family needs assessment
21 that includes consultation with such parents
22 about the benefits of parent involvement and
23 about the activities described in subparagraphs
24 (C) (D), and (E) in which such parents may
25 choose to become involved (taking into consider-

1 ation their specific family needs, work sched-
2 ules, and other responsibilities); and

3 “(G) to extend out reach to fathers in
4 order to strengthen the role of fathers in fami-
5 lies by working directly with fathers and father-
6 figures through such activities as including fa-
7 thers in home visits; implementing father out-
8 reach efforts, providing opportunities for direct
9 father-child interactions; and targeting in-
10 creased male participation in the program;

11 “(8) the ability of such applicant to carry out
12 the plans described in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4);

13 “(9) other factors related to the requirements
14 of this subchapter;

15 “(10) the plan of such applicant to meet the
16 needs of non-English background children and their
17 families, including needs related to the acquisition of
18 the English language;

19 “(11) the plan of such applicant to meet the
20 needs of children with disabilities;

21 “(12) the plan of such applicant who chooses to
22 assist younger siblings of children who will partici-
23 pate in the proposed Head Start program to obtain
24 health services from other sources;

1 “(13) the plan of such applicant to collaborate
2 with other entities carrying out early childhood edu-
3 cation and child care programs in the community;
4 and

5 “(14) the plan of such applicant to meet the
6 needs of homeless children.”.

7 **SEC. 106. QUALITY STANDARDS; MONITORING OF HEAD**
8 **START AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS.**

9 Section 641A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
10 9836a) is amended as follows:

11 (1) In subsection (a)(1)(B) by amending clause
12 (ii) to read as follows:

13 “(ii) additional education standards to en-
14 sure that the children participating in the pro-
15 gram, at a minimum develop and dem-
16 onstrate—

17 “(I) language skills;

18 “(II) prereading knowledge and skills,
19 including interest in and appreciation of
20 books, reading and writing either alone or
21 with others;

22 “(III) premathematics knowledge and
23 skills, including aspects of classification,
24 seriation, number, spatial relations, and
25 time;

1 “(IV) cognitive abilities related to aca-
2 demic achievement;

3 “(V) social and emotional development
4 important for environments constructive
5 for child development, early learning, and
6 school success; and

7 “(VI) in the case of limited-English
8 proficient children, progress toward acqui-
9 sition of the English language.”.

10 (2) By amending subsection (a)(2)(B) to read
11 as follows:

12 “(B) take into consideration—

13 “(i) past experience with use of the
14 standards in effect under this subchapter
15 on October 27, 1998;

16 “(ii) changes over the period since Oc-
17 tober 27, 1998, in the circumstances and
18 problems typically facing children and fam-
19 ilies served by Head Start agencies;

20 “(iii) developments concerning best
21 practices with respect to early childhood
22 education and development, children with
23 disabilities, family services, program ad-
24 ministration, and financial management;

1 “(iv) projected needs of an expanding
2 Head Start program;

3 “(v) guidelines and standards cur-
4 rently in effect or under consideration that
5 promote child health services, and pro-
6 jected needs of expanding Head Start pro-
7 grams;

8 “(vi) changes in the population of
9 children who are eligible to participate in
10 Head Start programs, including the lan-
11 guage background and family structure of
12 such children;

13 “(vii) the need for, and state-of-the-
14 art developments relating to, local policies
15 and activities designed to ensure that chil-
16 dren participating in Head Start programs
17 make a successful transition to schools;
18 and

19 “(viii) the unique challenges faced by
20 individual programs, including those that
21 are seasonal or short term, and those that
22 serve rural populations; and”.

23 (3) In subsection (a)(2)(C)(ii) by striking all
24 that follows “in effect on” down to the period and
25 inserting “October 27, 1998”.

1 (4) By amending subsection (b)(2) to read as
2 follows:

3 “(2) CHARACTERISTICS OF MEASURES.—The
4 performance measures developed under this sub-
5 section shall—

6 “(A) be used to assess the impact of the
7 various services provided by Head Start pro-
8 grams and, to the extent the Secretary finds
9 appropriate, administrative and financial man-
10 agement practices of such programs;

11 “(B) be adaptable for use in self-assess-
12 ment, peer review, and program evaluation of
13 individual Head Start agencies and programs;

14 “(C) be developed for other program pur-
15 poses as determined by the Secretary;

16 “(D) be appropriate for the population
17 served; and

18 “(E) be reviewed no less than every 4
19 years, based on advances in the science of early
20 childhood development.

21 The performance measures shall include the per-
22 formance standards described in subsection
23 (a)(1)(A) and (B).”.

24 (5) By amending subsection (b)(4) to read as
25 follows:

1 “(4) EDUCATIONAL MEASURES.—Results based
2 measures shall be designed for the purpose of pro-
3 moting the competencies of children participating in
4 Head Start programs specified in subsection
5 (a)(1)(B)(ii), with an emphasis on measuring those
6 competencies that have a strong scientifically-based
7 predictability of a child’s school readiness and later
8 performance in school.”.

9 (6) In subsection (c)(1)(C) by striking “the
10 standards” and inserting “one or more of the per-
11 formance measures developed by the Secretary under
12 subsection (b)”.

13 (7) By amending subsection (c)(2) to read as
14 follows:

15 “(2) CONDUCT OF REVIEWS.—The Secretary
16 shall ensure that reviews described in subparagraphs
17 (A) through (C) of paragraph (1)—

18 “(A) that incorporate a monitoring visit,
19 do so without prior notice of the visit to the
20 local agency or program;

21 “(B) are conducted by review teams that
22 shall include individuals who are knowledgeable
23 about Head Start programs and, to the max-
24 imum extent practicable, the diverse (including
25 linguistic and cultural) needs of eligible children

1 (including children with disabilities) and lim-
2 ited-English proficient children and their fami-
3 lies;

4 “(C) include as part of the reviews of the
5 programs, a review and assessment of program
6 effectiveness, as measured in accordance with
7 the results-based performance measures devel-
8 oped by the Secretary pursuant to subsection
9 (b) and with the standards established pursuant
10 to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection
11 (a)(1);

12 “(D) seek information from the commu-
13 nities and the States involved about the per-
14 formance of the programs and the efforts of the
15 Head Start agencies to collaborate with other
16 entities carrying out early childhood education
17 and child care programs in the community;

18 “(E) seek information from the commu-
19 nities where Head Start programs exist about
20 innovative or effective collaborative efforts, bar-
21 riers to collaboration, and the efforts of the
22 Head Start agencies and programs to collabo-
23 rate with the entities carrying out early child-
24 hood education and child care programs in the
25 community;

1 “(F) include as part of the reviews of the
2 programs, a review and assessment of whether
3 a program is in conformity with the income eli-
4 gibility requirements, as defined in section 645
5 and regulations promulgated thereunder;

6 “(G) include as part of the reviews of the
7 programs, a review and assessment of whether
8 programs have adequately addressed the popu-
9 lation and community needs (including popu-
10 lations of children with a limited English pro-
11 ficiency and children of migrant and seasonal
12 farm-working families); and

13 “(H) include as part of the review the ex-
14 tent to which the program addresses the com-
15 munity needs and strategic plan identified in
16 section 640(g)(2)(C).”.

17 (8) By amending so much of subsection (d)(1)
18 as precedes subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

19 “(1) DETERMINATION.—If the Secretary deter-
20 mines, on the basis of a review pursuant to sub-
21 section (c), that a Head Start agency designated
22 pursuant to section 641 fails to meet the standards
23 described in subsection (a) or results-based perform-
24 ance measures developed by the Secretary under
25 subsection (b), or fails to adequately address the

1 community needs and strategic plan identified in
2 640(g)(2)(C), the Secretary shall—”

3 (9) By amending subsection (d)(2) to read as
4 follows:

5 “(2) QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—

6 “(A) AGENCY AND PROGRAM RESPONSIBIL-
7 ITIES.—In order to retain a designation as a
8 Head Start agency under this subchapter, or in
9 the case of a Head Start Program, in order to
10 continue to receive funds from such agency, a
11 Head Start agency, or Head Start program
12 that is the subject of a determination described
13 in paragraph (1) (other than an agency or pro-
14 gram required to correct a deficiency imme-
15 diately or during a 90-day period under clause
16 (i) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(B)) shall—

17 “(i) develop in a timely manner, a
18 quality improvement plan which shall be
19 subject to the approval of the Secretary, or
20 in the case of a program, the sponsoring
21 agency, and which shall specify—

22 “(I) the deficiencies to be cor-
23 rected;

24 “(II) the actions to be taken to
25 correct such deficiencies; and

1 “(III) the timetable for accom-
2 plishment of the corrective actions
3 specified; and

4 “(ii) eliminate each deficiency identi-
5 fied, not later than the date for elimination
6 of such deficiency specified in such plan
7 (which shall not be later than 1 year after
8 the date the agency or program received
9 notice of the determination and of the spe-
10 cific deficiency to be corrected).

11 “(B) SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—Not
12 later than 30 days after receiving from a Head
13 Start agency a proposed quality improvement
14 plan pursuant to subparagraph (A), the Sec-
15 retary shall either approve such proposed plan
16 or specify the reasons why the proposed plan
17 cannot be approved.

18 “(C) AGENCY RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRO-
19 GRAM IMPROVEMENT.—Not later than 30 days
20 after receiving from a Head Start program, a
21 proposed quality improvement plan pursuant to
22 subparagraph (A), the sponsoring agency shall
23 either approve such proposed plan or specify
24 the reasons why the proposed plan cannot be
25 approved.”.

1 (10) In subsection (d)(3) by inserting “and pro-
2 grams” after “agencies”.

3 (11) Subsection (e) is amended to read as fol-
4 lows:

5 “(e) **SUMMARIES OF MONITORING OUTCOMES.**—Not
6 later than 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, the
7 Secretary shall publish a summary report on the findings
8 of reviews conducted under subsection (c) and on the out-
9 comes of quality improvement plans implemented under
10 subsection (d), during such fiscal year. Such information
11 shall be made available to all parents with students receiv-
12 ing assistance under this Act in a understandable and uni-
13 form format, and to the extent practicable, provided in a
14 language that the parents can understand, and in addi-
15 tion, make the information widely available through public
16 means such as distribution through public agencies, and
17 at a minimum posting such information on the Internet
18 immediately upon publication.”.

19 **SEC. 107. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-**
20 **CIES.**

21 Section 642 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
22 9837(b)) is amended as follows:

23 (1) By amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
24 lows:

1 “(b) In order to be so designated, a Head Start agen-
2 cy shall also—

3 “(1) establish a program with standards set
4 forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular atten-
5 tion to the standards set forth in subparagraphs (A)
6 and (B) of such section;

7 “(2) demonstrate capacity to serve eligible chil-
8 dren with scientifically-based curricula and other
9 interventions that help promote the school readiness
10 of children participating in the program;

11 “(3) establish effective procedures by which
12 parents and area residents concerned will be enabled
13 to directly participate in decisions that influence the
14 character of programs affecting their interests;

15 “(4) provide for their regular participation in
16 the implementation of such programs;

17 “(5) provide technical and other support needed
18 to enable parents and area residents to secure on
19 their own behalf available assistance from public and
20 private sources;

21 “(6) seek the involvement of parents of partici-
22 pating children in activities designed to help such
23 parents become full partners in the education of
24 their children, and to afford such parents the oppor-
25 tunity to participate in the development, conduct,

1 and overall performance of the program at the local
2 level;

3 “(7) conduct outreach to schools in which Head
4 Start children enroll, local educational agencies, the
5 local business community, community-based organi-
6 zations, faith-based organizations, museums, and li-
7 braries to generate support and leverage the re-
8 sources of the entire local community in order to im-
9 prove school readiness;

10 “(8) offer (directly or through referral to local
11 entities, such as entities carrying out Even Start
12 programs under part B of chapter 1 of title I of the
13 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
14 (20 U.S.C. 2741 et seq.)), to parents of partici-
15 pating children, family literacy services and par-
16 enting skills training;

17 “(9) offer to parents of participating children
18 substance abuse counseling (either directly or
19 through referral to local entities), including informa-
20 tion on drug-exposed infants and fetal alcohol syn-
21 drome;

22 “(10) at the option of such agency, offer (di-
23 rectly or through referral to local entities), to such
24 parents—

25 “(A) training in basic child development;

1 “(B) assistance in developing communica-
2 tion skills;

3 “(C) opportunities to share experiences
4 with other parents;

5 “(D) regular in-home visitation; or

6 “(E) any other activity designed to help
7 such parents become full partners in the edu-
8 cation of their children;

9 “(11) provide, with respect to each partici-
10 pating family, a family needs assessment that in-
11 cludes consultation with such parents about the ben-
12 efits of parent involvement and about the activities
13 described in paragraphs (4) through (7) in which
14 such parents may choose to be involved (taking into
15 consideration their specific family needs, work sched-
16 ules, and other responsibilities);

17 “(12) consider providing services to assist
18 younger siblings of children participating in its Head
19 Start program to obtain health services from other
20 sources;

21 “(13) perform community outreach to encour-
22 age individuals previously unaffiliated with Head
23 Start programs to participate in its Head Start pro-
24 gram as volunteers; and

1 “(14)(A) inform custodial parents in single-par-
2 ent families that participate in programs, activities,
3 or services carried out or provided under this sub-
4 chapter about the availability of child support serv-
5 ices for purposes of establishing paternity and ac-
6 quiring child support; and

7 “(B) refer eligible parents to the child support
8 offices of State and local governments.”.

9 (2) Amend subsection (c) to read as follows:

10 “(c) The head of each Head Start agency shall co-
11 ordinate and collaborate with the State agency responsible
12 for administering the State program carried out under the
13 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42
14 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.), and other early childhood education
15 and development programs, including programs under
16 subtitle VII–B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-
17 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431–11435), Even Start programs
18 under part B of chapter 1 of title I of the Elementary
19 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2741
20 et seq.), and programs under Part C and section 619 of
21 the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
22 1431–1445, 1419), and the Child Abuse Prevention and
23 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a), serving the children
24 and families served by the Head Start agency to carry out
25 the provisions of this subchapter.”.

1 (3) In subsection (d) by redesignating para-
2 graphs (2) through (4) as paragraph (3) through (5)
3 and inserting the following new paragraph after
4 paragraph (1):

5 “(2) In communities where both public prekindergarten
6 programs and Head Start programs operate, a
7 Head Start agency shall coordinate with the local edu-
8 cational agency or other public agency responsible for the
9 operation of the prekindergarten program and providers
10 of prekindergarten, including for outreach to identify eligi-
11 ble children.”.

12 (5) In paragraph (3) (as redesignated) of subsection
13 (d), strike “and” at the end of subparagraph (A) and in-
14 sert the following after subparagraph (A) and redesignate
15 subparagraph (B) as (C):

16 “(B) collaborating to increase the program
17 participation of underserved populations of eli-
18 gible children; and”.

19 **SEC. 108. HEAD START ALIGNMENT WITH K-12 EDUCATION.**

20 Section 642A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
21 9837a) is amended as follows:

22 (1) The heading is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 642A. HEAD START ALIGNMENT WITH K-12 EDU-**
2 **CATION.”.**

3 (2) In paragraph (2) after “social workers,” in-
4 sert the following: “McKinney-Vento liaisons as es-
5 tablished under section 722 (g)(1)(J)(ii) of the
6 McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance
7 Improvements Act of 2001,”.

8 (3) Add the following new paragraph after
9 paragraph (2) and redesignated paragraphs (3)
10 through (7) as (4) through (8):

11 “(3) developing continuity of developmentally
12 appropriate curricula between Head Start and local
13 educational agencies to ensure an effective transition
14 and appropriate shared expectations for children’s
15 learning and development as they make such transi-
16 tion to school;”.

17 (4) Paragraph (6)(as redesignated by para-
18 graph (3) of this section) is amended to read as fol-
19 lows:

20 “(6) developing and implementing a family out-
21 reach and support program in cooperation with enti-
22 ties carrying out parental involvement efforts under
23 title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education
24 Act of 1965 and family outreach and support efforts
25 under subtitle VII–B of the McKinney-Vento Home-
26 less Assistance Act;”.

1 (4) In paragraph (7)(as redesignated by para-
2 graph (3) of this section) by inserting “and con-
3 tinuity in parental involvement activities” after “de-
4 velopmental continuity”.

5 (5) Strike “and” at the end of paragraph (7)(as
6 redesignated by paragraph (3) of this section) and
7 strike the period at the end of paragraph (8)(as re-
8 designated by paragraph (3) of this section) and in-
9 sert a semicolon.

10 (6) Add the following after paragraph (8):

11 “(9) helping parents to understand the impor-
12 tance of parental involvement in a child’s academic
13 success while teaching them strategies for maintain-
14 ing parental involvement as their child moves from
15 Head Start to elementary school; and

16 “(10) developing and implementing a system to
17 increase program participation of underserved popu-
18 lations of eligible children.”.

19 **SEC. 109. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND STAND-**
20 **ARDS.**

21 Section 644 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9839)
22 is amended in subsection (f)(2) by redesignating subpara-
23 graphs (A) through (E) as (B) through (F) and inserting
24 the following new subparagraph before subparagraph (B)
25 (as so redesignated):

1 “(A) a description of the consultation conducted
2 by the Head Start agency with the providers in the
3 community demonstrating capacity and capability to
4 provide services under this Act, and of the potential
5 for collaboration with such providers and the cost ef-
6 fectiveness of such collaboration as opposed to the
7 cost effectiveness of the purchase of a facility;”

8 **SEC. 110. ELIGIBILITY.**

9 Section 645(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
10 9843) is amended as follows:

11 (1) By striking “to a reasonable extent” in
12 paragraph (1)(B)(i) and inserting “not to exceed 10
13 percent of the total enrollment” and by striking
14 “benefit from such programs” and inserting “benefit
15 from such programs, including children referred by
16 child welfare services,”.

17 (2) By adding the following new paragraph at
18 the end thereof:

19 “(3) The amount of a basic allowance provided under
20 section 403 of title 37, United States Code, on behalf of
21 an individual who is a member of the uniformed services
22 for housing that is acquired or constructed under the au-
23 thority of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United
24 States Code, or any other related provision of law, shall
25 not be considered to be income for purposes of deter-

1 mining the eligibility of a child of the individual for pro-
2 grams assisted under this subchapter.”.

3 **SEC. 111. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 645A of the Head Start
5 Act (42 U.S.C. 9643) is amended as follows:

6 (1) By amending paragraphs (4) and (5) of
7 subsection (b) to read as follows:

8 “(4) provide services to parents to support their
9 role as parents (including parenting skills training
10 and training in basic child development) and to help
11 the families move toward self-sufficiency (including
12 educational and employment services as appro-
13 priate);

14 “(5) coordinate services with services (including
15 home-based services) provided by programs in the
16 State and programs in the community (including
17 programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities)
18 to ensure a comprehensive array of services (such as
19 health and mental health services, and family sup-
20 port services);”.

21 (2) By amending paragraph (8) of subsection
22 (b) to read as follows:

23 “(8) ensure formal linkages with the agencies
24 and entities described in section 644(b) of the Indi-
25 viduals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.

1 1444(b)) and providers of early intervention services
2 for infants and toddlers with disabilities under the
3 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20
4 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) and the agency responsible for
5 administering the section 106 of the Child Abuse
6 Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a);
7 and”.

8 (3) In subsection (g)(2)(B) by striking “and”
9 at the end of clause (iii), by striking the period at
10 the end of clause (iv) and inserting “; and” and by
11 inserting the following at the end:

12 “(v) providing professional develop-
13 ment designed to increase program partici-
14 pation for underserved populations of eligi-
15 ble children.”.

16 (b) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL PROGRAMS.—Section
17 645A(d)(1) of the Head Start Act (42 US.C. 9643(d)(1))
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 “(1) entities operating Head Start programs
20 under this subpart, including migrant and seasonal
21 Head Start programs; and”.

22 (c) COMMUNITY- AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZA-
23 TIONS.—Section 645A(d)(2) of the Head Start Act (42
24 US.C. 9643(d)(21)) is amended by inserting “, including

1 community- and faith-based organizations” after “enti-
2 ties” in the second place it appears.

3 **SEC. 112. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.**

4 Section 648 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843)
5 is amended as follows:

6 (1) By inserting the following new subsection
7 after subsection (a) and redesignating subsections
8 (b) through (e) as subsections (c) through (f):

9 “(b) The Secretary shall make available to each State
10 the money reserved in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) to support
11 a State-based system delivering training and technical as-
12 sistance that improves the capacity of Head Start pro-
13 grams within a State to deliver services in accordance with
14 the Head Start standards in section 641A(a)(1), with par-
15 ticular attention to the standards set forth in subpara-
16 graphs (A) and (B) of such section. The Secretary shall—

17 “(1) ensure eligible entities within a State are
18 chosen by the Secretary, in consultation with the
19 State Collaboration Board described in section
20 640(a)(5)(C)(i), through a competitive bid process;

21 “(2) ensure that existing agencies with dem-
22 onstrated expertise in providing high quality training
23 and technical assistance to improve the delivery of
24 Head Start services, including the State Head Start
25 Association, State agencies, migrant and seasonal

1 Head Start programs operating in the State, and
2 other entities currently providing training and tech-
3 nical assistance in early education, be included in
4 the planning and coordination of the State system of
5 training and technical assistance; and

6 “(3) encourage States to supplement the funds
7 authorized in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) with State,
8 Federal, or local funds other than Head Start funds,
9 to expand activities beyond Head Start agencies to
10 include other providers of other early childhood serv-
11 ices within a State.”.

12 (2) In subsection (d) (as redesignated):

13 (A) In paragraph (2), after “disabilities”
14 insert “and for activities described in section
15 1221(b)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary
16 Education Act of 1965”.

17 (B) In paragraph (5) after “assessment”
18 insert “, including the needs of homeless chil-
19 dren and their families”.

20 (C) By striking “and” at the end of para-
21 graph (10), by striking the period at the end of
22 paragraph (11) and inserting “; and” and by
23 inserting the following at the end:

1 “(12) assist Head Start agencies and programs
2 in increasing program participation of eligible home-
3 less children.”.

4 (3) In subsection (e) (as redesignated by para-
5 graph (1)) by inserting “, including community- and
6 faith-based organizations” after “entities”.

7 (4) By amending subsection (f) (as redesign-
8 ated by paragraph (1)) to read as follows:

9 “(f) The Secretary shall provide, either directly or
10 through grants or other arrangements, funds from pro-
11 grams authorized under this subchapter to support an or-
12 ganization to administer a centralized child development
13 and national assessment program leading to recognized
14 credentials for personnel working in early childhood devel-
15 opment and child care programs, training for personnel
16 providing services to non-English language background
17 children (including services to promote the acquisition of
18 the English language), training for personnel providing
19 services to children determined to be abused or neglected,
20 training for personnel providing services to children re-
21 ferred by or receiving child welfare services, training for
22 personnel in helping children cope with community vio-
23 lence, and resource access projects for personnel working
24 with disabled children.”.

25 (5) Insert at the end of the section:

1 “(g) HELPING PERSONNEL BETTER SERVE MI-
2 GRANT AND SEASONAL FARM-WORKING COMMUNITIES
3 AND HOMELESS FAMILIES.—The Secretary shall provide,
4 either directly or through grants, or other arrangements,
5 funds for training of Head Start personnel in addressing
6 the unique needs of migrant and seasonal working fami-
7 lies, families with a limited English proficiency, and home-
8 less families.

9 “(h) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—The majority of
10 funds expended under this section shall be used to provide
11 high quality, sustained, intensive, and classroom-focused
12 training and technical assistance in order to have a posi-
13 tive and lasting impact on classroom instruction. Funds
14 shall be used to carry out activities related to any or all
15 of the following:

16 “(1) Education and early childhood develop-
17 ment.

18 “(2) Child health, nutrition, and safety.

19 “(3) Family and community partnerships.

20 “(4) Other areas that impact the quality or
21 overall effectiveness of Head Start programs.

22 “(i) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Funds under
23 this subchapter used for training shall be used for needs
24 identified annually by a grant applicant or delegate agency
25 in their program improvement plan, except that funds

1 shall not be used for long-distance travel expenses for
2 training activities available locally or regionally or for
3 training activities substantially similar to locally or region-
4 ally available training activities.

5 “(j) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
6 term ‘eligible entities’ means an institution of higher edu-
7 cation or other entity with expertise in delivering training
8 in early childhood development, family support, and other
9 assistance designed to improve the delivery of Head Start
10 services.”.

11 **SEC. 113. STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT.**

12 Section 648A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
13 9843a) is amended as follows:

14 (1) By amending paragraph (2) of subsection
15 (a) to read as follows:

16 “(2) DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
18 ensure that not later than September 30, 2008,
19 at least 50 percent of all Head Start teachers
20 nationwide in center-based programs have—

21 “(i) a baccalaureate, or advanced de-
22 gree in early childhood education; or

23 “(ii) a baccalaureate, or advanced de-
24 gree in a field related to early childhood

1 education, with experience in teaching pre-
2 school children.

3 “(B) PROGRESS.—Each Head State agen-
4 cy shall provide to the Secretary a report indi-
5 cating the number and percentage of classroom
6 instructors with child development associate
7 credentials and associate, baccalaureate, or ad-
8 vanced degrees. The Secretary shall compile all
9 program reports and make them available to
10 the Committee on Education and the Workforce
11 of the United States House of Representatives
12 and the Committee on Health, Education,
13 Labor, and Pensions of the United States Sen-
14 ate.

15 “(C) REQUIREMENT FOR NEW HEAD
16 START TEACHERS.—Within 3 years after the
17 date of enactment of this clause, the Secretary
18 shall require that all Head Start teachers na-
19 tionwide in center-based programs hired fol-
20 lowing the date of enactment of this subpara-
21 graph—

22 “(i) have an associate, baccalaureate,
23 or advanced degree in early childhood edu-
24 cation;

1 “(ii) have an associate, baccalaureate,
2 or advanced degree in a field related to
3 early childhood education, with experience
4 in teaching preschool children; or

5 “(iii) be currently enrolled in a pro-
6 gram of study leading to an associate de-
7 gree in early childhood education and
8 agree to complete degree requirements
9 within 3 years from the date of hire.

10 “(D) SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
11 retary shall establish requirements to ensure
12 that individuals who receive financial assistance
13 under this Act in order to comply with the re-
14 quirements under section 648A(a)(2) shall sub-
15 sequently teach in a Head Start center for a pe-
16 riod of time equivalent to the period for which
17 they received assistance or repay the amount of
18 the funds.”.

19 (2) By adding the following at the end thereof:

20 “(f) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS.—Every
21 Head Start agency and program shall create, in consulta-
22 tion with an employee, a professional development plan for
23 all full-time employees who provide direct services to chil-
24 dren.”.

1 **SEC. 114. RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND EVALUA-**
2 **TION.**

3 Section 649 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9844)
4 is amended as follows:

5 (1) By amending subsection (a)(1)(B) to read
6 as follows:

7 “(B) use the Head Start programs to de-
8 velop, test, and disseminate new ideas and ap-
9 proaches for addressing the needs of low-income
10 preschool children (including children with dis-
11 abilities and children determined to be abused
12 or neglected) and their families and commu-
13 nities (including demonstrations of innovative
14 non-center based program models such as
15 home-based and mobile programs), and other-
16 wise to further the purposes of this sub-
17 chapter.”.

18 (1) By striking paragraph (9) of subsection (d)
19 and inserting “(9) REPEALED.—”.

20 (2) By striking clause (i) of subsection
21 (g)(1)(A) and redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) as
22 clauses (i) and (ii).

23 (3) In subsection (g)(7)(C)(i) by striking
24 “1999” and inserting “2003”, striking “2001” and
25 inserting “2005”, and striking “2003” and inserting
26 “2006”.

1 (4) By amending subsection (h) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(h) NAS STUDY.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use
5 funds allocated in section 640(a)(2)(C)(iii) to con-
6 tract with the National Academy of Sciences for the
7 Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the Na-
8 tional Research Council to establish an independent
9 panel of experts to review and synthesize research,
10 theory and applications in the social, behavioral and
11 biological sciences and shall make recommendations
12 on early childhood pedagogy with regard to each of
13 the following:

14 “(A) Age and developmentally appropriate
15 Head Start academic requirements and out-
16 comes, including but not limited to the domains
17 in 641A(a)(B).

18 “(B) Differences in the type, length, mix
19 and intensity of services necessary to ensure
20 that children from challenging family and social
21 backgrounds including: low-income children,
22 children of color, children with special needs,
23 and children with limited English proficiency
24 enter kindergarten ready to succeed.

1 “(C) Appropriate assessments of young
2 children for the purposes of improving instruc-
3 tion, services, and program quality, including
4 systematic observation assessment in a child’s
5 natural environment, parent and provider inter-
6 views, and accommodations for children with
7 disabilities and appropriate assessments for
8 children with special needs, including English
9 language learners.

10 “(2) COMPOSITION.—The panel shall consist of
11 multiple experts in each of the following areas:

12 “(A) Child development and education, in-
13 cluding cognitive, social, emotional, physical,
14 approaches to learning, and other domains of
15 child development and learning.

16 “(B) Professional development, including
17 teacher preparation, to individuals who teach
18 young children in programs.

19 “(C) Assessment of young children, includ-
20 ing screening, diagnostic and classroom-based
21 instructional assessment; children with special
22 needs, including children with disabilities and
23 limited English proficient children.

24 “(3) TIMING.—The National Academy of
25 Sciences and the Board shall establish the panel not

1 later than 90 days after the date of enactment of
2 this paragraph. The panel should complete its rec-
3 ommendations within 18 months of its convening.

4 “(4) APPLICATION OF PANEL REPORT.—The
5 results of the panel study shall be used as guidelines
6 by the Secretary to develop, inform and revise,
7 where appropriate, the Head Start education per-
8 formance measures and standards and the assess-
9 ments utilized in the Head Start program.”.

10 **SEC. 115. REPORTS.**

11 Section 650 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9845)
12 is amended as follows:

13 (1) The first sentence of subsection (a) is
14 amended to read as follows: “At least once during
15 every 2-year period, the Secretary shall prepare and
16 submit, to the Committee on Education and the
17 Workforce of the House of Representatives and the
18 Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pen-
19 sions of the Senate, a report concerning the status
20 of children (including disabled, homeless, and non-
21 English language background children) in Head
22 Start programs, including the number of children
23 and the services being provided to such children.”.

24 (2) Paragraph (8) of subsection (a) is amended
25 by inserting “, homelessness” after “background”.

1 **SEC. 116. HEAD START NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS.**

2 Section 654 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9849)
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 **“SEC. 654. NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS.**

5 “(a)(1) The Secretary shall not provide financial as-
6 sistance for any program, project, or activity under this
7 subchapter unless the grant or contract with respect there-
8 to specifically provides that no person with responsibilities
9 in the operation thereof will discriminate with respect to
10 any such program, project, or activity because of race,
11 creed, color, national origin, sex, political affiliation, or be-
12 liefs.

13 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a recipient of
14 financial assistance under this subchapter that is a reli-
15 gious corporation, association, educational institution, or
16 society, with respect to the employment of individuals of
17 a particular religion to perform work connected with the
18 carrying on by such corporation, association, educational
19 institution, or society of its activities. Such recipients shall
20 comply with the other requirements contained in this sub-
21 section.

22 “(b) No person in the United States shall on the
23 ground of sex be excluded from participation in, be denied
24 the benefits of, be subjected to discrimination under, or
25 be denied employment in connection with any program or
26 activity receiving assistance under this subchapter. The

1 Secretary shall enforce the provisions of the preceding sen-
2 tence in accordance with section 602 of the Civil Rights
3 Act of 1964. Section 603 of such Act shall apply with re-
4 spect to any action taken by the Secretary to enforce such
5 sentence. This section shall not be construed as affecting
6 any other legal remedy that a person may have if such
7 person is excluded from participation in, denied the benefit
8 of, subjected to discrimination under, or denied employ-
9 ment (except as provided in subsection (a)(2)), in the ad-
10 ministration of any program, project, or activity receiving
11 assistance under this subchapter.

12 “(c) The Secretary shall not provide financial assist-
13 ance for any program, project, or activity under this sub-
14 chapter unless the grant or contract relating to the finan-
15 cial assistance specifically provides that no person with re-
16 sponsibilities in the operation of the program, project, or
17 activity will discriminate against any individual because of
18 a handicapping condition in violation of section 504 of the
19 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, except as provided in sub-
20 section (a)(2).”.

21 **SEC. 117. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

22 The amendments made by this Act shall be effective
23 with respect to fiscal years beginning on and after October
24 1, 2003.

1 **TITLE II—STATE**
2 **DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

3 **SEC. 201. STATE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**

4 The Head Start Act is amended by inserting after
5 section 643 the following new section:

6 **“SEC. 643A. STATE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**

7 “(a) GRANTS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

9 “(A) ELIGIBLE STATES.—In the case of
10 each eligible State that submits to the Sec-
11 retary an application that fulfills the require-
12 ments of this section, the Secretary, from
13 amounts appropriated under section 639(a),
14 shall make a grant to the State to carry out a
15 State demonstration program under this sec-
16 tion, except that the Secretary shall not make
17 such grants to more than 8 eligible States.

18 “(B) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary
19 shall make awards to those States that dem-
20 onstrate—

21 “(i) that the State standards generally
22 meet or exceed the standards that ensure
23 the quality and effectiveness of programs
24 operated by Head Start agencies;

1 “(ii) the capacity to deliver high qual-
2 ity early childhood education services to
3 prepare children, including low-income chil-
4 dren, for school; and

5 “(iii) success in improving the school
6 readiness of children.

7 “(2) STATE ELIGIBILITY.—A State shall be eli-
8 gible to participate in the program under this sec-
9 tion if it meets each of the following criteria:

10 “(A) The State has an existing State sup-
11 ported system providing public prekindergarten
12 to children prior to entry into kindergarten.

13 “(B) The State has implemented standards
14 as of fiscal year 2003 for school readiness that
15 include standards for language, prereading and
16 premathematics development for prekindergarten
17 that are aligned with State kindergarten
18 through twelfth grade academic content stand-
19 ards and which shall apply to all programs re-
20 ceiving funds under this part or provides an as-
21 surance that such standards will be aligned by
22 the end of the second fiscal year of participa-
23 tion.

24 “(C) State and locally appropriated funds
25 for prekindergarten services and Head Start

1 services in the base year under this section shall
2 not be less than 50 percent of the Federal
3 funds that the grantees in the State received
4 under this Act in the base year for services to
5 Head Start eligible children, excluding amounts
6 for services provided under section 645A.

7 “(D) The State has established a means
8 for inter-agency coordination and collaboration
9 in the development of the plan under subsection
10 (h).

11 “(b) LEAD AGENCY.—A program under this section
12 shall be administered by a State governmental entity des-
13 ignated by the Chief Executive Officer of the State as the
14 lead State agency.

15 “(c) STATE OPERATION OF PROGRAM.—The State
16 may conduct all or any part of the program under this
17 section (including the activities specified in subsection (g))
18 directly or by grant, contract, or cooperative agreement.

19 “(d) TRANSITION.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For 60 months after the
21 effective date of this section, the State shall continue
22 to provide funds to each local grantee who—

23 “(A) was receiving funds under this sub-
24 chapter, as in effect prior to the date of enact-
25 ment of this section, and

1 “(B) is serving the geographic area cov-
2 ered by the plan in section 643A(h).

3 Such continuing grants shall be made in accordance
4 with the terms of the grant made to the local grant-
5 ee immediately prior to such date of enactment. This
6 paragraph shall not apply to a grant applicant who
7 has experienced substantial uncorrected deficiencies
8 on Department of Health and Human Services mon-
9 itoring reports during any year of the most recent
10 5-year period, or to a grantee that, as determined by
11 the State, does not comply with the State plan de-
12 scribed in subsection 643A(h) submitted to the Sec-
13 retary.

14 “(e) FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

15 “(1) ALLOCATION OF FEDERAL ALLOTMENTS
16 TO STATE PROGRAMS.—From each total amount de-
17 scribed in paragraph (2) allotted to a State for a fis-
18 cal year, the Secretary shall pay to a State with a
19 program approved under this section for such fiscal
20 year an amount equal to—

21 “(A) if the State program is statewide,
22 100 percent of such total amount; and

23 “(B) if the State program is limited to a
24 geographic area or areas, the sum of—

1 “(i) an amount equal to the amount
2 received by grantees in such geographic
3 area or areas for the Federal fiscal year
4 preceding the first fiscal year of the State
5 program under this section; plus

6 “(ii) an amount bearing the same
7 ratio to the excess (if any) above the total
8 amount for such preceding fiscal year as
9 the number of children less than 5 years of
10 age from families whose income is below
11 the poverty line in the geographic area or
12 areas included in the program bears to the
13 total number of such children in the State
14 (as determined using the same data used
15 pursuant to section 640(a)(4)(B)).

16 “(2) FUNDS ALLOCATED.—For purposes of
17 paragraph (1), amounts described in this paragraph
18 are:

19 “(A) BASIC STATE ALLOTMENTS.—
20 Amounts allotted to States pursuant to section
21 640(a)(4), including amounts reserved pursuant
22 to section 640(a)(5), excluding amounts for
23 services provided under section 645A.

24 “(B) STATE ALLOTMENTS OF EXPANSION
25 FUNDS.—Amounts allotted to States pursuant

1 to section 640(a)(3)(D)(i)(I) for program ex-
2 pansion.

3 “(C) QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FUNDS.—
4 Quality improvement funds (if any) reserved
5 pursuant to section 640(a)(3).

6 “(D) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
7 ANCE FUNDS.—An amount bearing the same
8 ratio to the amount set aside for training and
9 technical assistance activities pursuant to sec-
10 tion 640(a)(2)(C)(i) and (ii) as the State’s
11 share of amounts allotted under section
12 640(a)(4)(B) bears to the total amount so allot-
13 ted (and for purposes of subparagraph (A),
14 such amount shall be considered an amount al-
15 lotted to the State for the fiscal year).

16 “(3) NON-FEDERAL MATCH.—(A) In deter-
17 mining the amount of Federal and non-Federal con-
18 tributions for purposes of this section, the amounts
19 required to be expended by the State under sub-
20 section (h)(14)(B) (relating to maintenance of ef-
21 fort) shall be excluded.

22 “(B) Financial assistance made available to a
23 State under this subchapter shall be in an amount
24 equal to 95 percent of the total amount expended for
25 such programs. The Secretary shall require non-Fed-

1 eral contributions in an amount equal to 5 percent
2 of the total amount expended under this subchapter
3 for such programs.

4 “(C) Non-Federal contributions may be made
5 in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including plant,
6 equipment, or services.

7 “(4) COMBINED OPERATIONS WITH OTHER
8 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—A
9 State may combine funds for a program under this
10 section with funds for other early childhood pro-
11 grams serving children in the same age group, as
12 long as all applicable requirements of this sub-
13 chapter are met with respect to either—

14 “(A) the entire combined program; or

15 “(B) each child served in such combined
16 program for whom the services provided are
17 funded from appropriations under this sub-
18 chapter or non-Federal matching contributions
19 under this subchapter.

20 “(5) USE OF FUNDS WITHOUT REGARD TO AL-
21 LOTMENT PURPOSES.—A State may use funds re-
22 ceived pursuant to this section for any program pur-
23 pose set forth in section 636, without regard to the
24 purposes for such funds specified in section 640.

1 “(6) OTHER FUNDS.—Funds received under
2 this section shall not supplant any non-Federal,
3 State or local funds that would otherwise be used for
4 activities authorized under this section or similar ac-
5 tivities carried out in the State.

6 “(f) COORDINATION AND CHOICE.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State demonstration
8 Program shall be coordinated with the education
9 programs of local educational agencies in the State
10 to ensure that the program is effectively designed to
11 develop in children in the program the knowledge
12 and behaviors necessary to transition successfully to
13 kindergarten and to succeed in school.

14 “(2) PROGRAMS CONCERNED.—

15 “(A) REQUIRED PROGRAMS.—Such coordi-
16 nation shall occur regarding the implementation
17 of the following:

18 “(i) The Early Reading First and
19 Even Start programs under title I, part B,
20 subparts 2 and 3 of the Elementary and
21 Secondary Education Act of 1965, and
22 other preschool programs carried out
23 under title I of that Act.

24 “(ii) State prekindergarten programs.

1 “(iii) The Ready-to-Learn Television
2 Program under subpart 3 of part D of title
3 II of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
4 cation Act.

5 “(B) OPTIONAL PROGRAMS.—Such coordi-
6 nation may occur regarding the implementation
7 of the following:

8 “(i) Programs under the Child Care
9 and Development Block Grant Act.

10 “(ii) Other publicly funded early child-
11 hood education programs.

12 “(3) PARENTAL CHOICE.—The program shall
13 allow parents to choose the preschool program for
14 their child.

15 “(g) REQUIRED SERVICES.—With funds under this
16 section, the State shall provide services described in sec-
17 tion 641A at least as extensive as were provided, and to
18 at least as many low-income children and families in each
19 fiscal year as were provided such services, with such funds
20 in the base year in the State (or, if applicable, in the geo-
21 graphic area included in the State program). A program
22 under this section shall include the following comprehen-
23 sive activities designed to promote school readiness and
24 success in school:

1 “(1) CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION.—

2 Activities with enrolled children that promote—

3 “(A) cognitive development, language de-
4 velopment, prereading, and premathematics
5 knowledge and skills;

6 “(B) physical development, health, and nu-
7 trition (including through coordination with,
8 and referral of children and families to local
9 health service entities; and

10 “(C) social development important for en-
11 vironments constructive for child development,
12 early learning, and school success.

13 “(2) PARENT EDUCATION AND INVOLVE-
14 MENT.—Activities with the parents of enrolled chil-
15 dren directed at enhancing and encouraging—

16 “(A) involvement in, and ability to sup-
17 port, their children’s educational development;

18 “(B) parenting skills and understanding of
19 child development; and

20 “(C) ability to participate effectively in de-
21 cisions relating to the education of their chil-
22 dren.

23 “(3) SOCIAL AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERV-
24 ICES.—Activities directed at securing appropriate so-
25 cial and family support services for enrolled children

1 and their families, primarily through referral and co-
2 ordination with local, State, and Federal entities
3 that provide such services.

4 “(4) HEAD START SERVICES.—For purposes of
5 paragraph (1) Head Start services furnished in a
6 State program under this section shall include all
7 Head Start services, other than—

8 “(A) Indian Head Start programs and mi-
9 grant and seasonal Head Start programs sup-
10 ported with funds reserved under section
11 640(a)(2)(A); and

12 “(B) Early Head Start services provided
13 under section 645A.

14 “(h) STATE PLAN.—A State proposing to administer
15 a program under this section shall submit a State plan
16 to the Secretary. The State plan shall include the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(1) LEAD STATE AGENCY.—The plan shall
19 identify the entity designated by the Chief Executive
20 Officer of the State as the lead State agency.

21 “(2) GEOGRAPHIC AREA.—The plan shall speci-
22 fy whether the program is statewide, and, if it is
23 not, identify the geographic area or areas covered by
24 the plan. A geographic area may be a city, county,

1 standard metropolitan statistical area, or such other
2 geographic area in the State.

3 “(3) PROGRAM PERIOD.—A State program
4 under this section shall be in effect for 5 Federal fis-
5 cal years.

6 “(4) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.—The plan shall
7 describe the services under subsection (f) to be pro-
8 vided in the program and arrangements the State
9 proposes to use to provide the services specified in
10 subsection (g), including how the State will leverage
11 existing delivery systems for such services.

12 “(5) NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—The plan shall de-
13 scribe the results of a State needs assessment and
14 shall provide an assurance that the State will use
15 the results to identify the needs for early childhood
16 education services within a State or geographic area
17 to be served and is targeting services to those areas
18 of greatest need and to expand and improve services
19 to disadvantaged children in the State.

20 “(6) ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE.—The plan
21 shall provide an assurance that the State program
22 will comply with the requirements of this section, in-
23 cluding each of the following:

24 “(A) PRIORITY FOR LOW-INCOME CHIL-
25 DREN.—Requirements established pursuant to

1 section 645(a) concerning the eligibility and pri-
2 ority of individuals for participation in Head
3 Start programs.

4 “(B) CONTINUATION FOR EXISTING PRO-
5 VIDERS.—An applicant who received funds
6 under this subchapter in prior fiscal years and
7 has not corrected any substantial deficiencies
8 identified in the past 5 years shall not be eligi-
9 ble to receive any grants, contract, or coopera-
10 tive agreements under this section.

11 “(C) PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN WITH
12 DISABILITIES.—Requirements pursuant to sec-
13 tion 640(d) concerning Head Start enrollment
14 opportunities and services for children with dis-
15 abilities.

16 “(D) PROVISIONS CONCERNING FEES AND
17 COPAYMENTS.—The provisions of section
18 645(b) concerning the charging of fees and the
19 circumstances under which copayments are per-
20 missible.

21 “(E) FEDERAL SHARE; STATE AND LOCAL
22 MATCHING.—The provisions of section 640(b)
23 limiting Federal financial assistance for Head
24 Start programs, and providing for non-Federal
25 contributions.

1 “(F) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The provi-
2 sions of section 644(b) limiting the share of
3 program funds that may be used for developing
4 and administering a program.

5 “(G) FEDERAL PROPERTY INTEREST.—
6 Applicable provisions of this subchapter regard-
7 ing the Federal Government interest in prop-
8 erty (including real property) purchased, leased,
9 or renovated with Federal funds.

10 “(7) IDENTIFICATION OF BARRIERS.—The plan
11 shall identify barriers in the State to the effective
12 use of Federal, State, and local public funds, and
13 private funds, for early education and care that are
14 available to the State on the date on which the ap-
15 plication is submitted.

16 “(8) STATE GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL READI-
17 NESS.—The plan shall include—

18 “(A) a State definition of school readiness;

19 “(B) a description of the State’s general
20 goals for school readiness, including how the
21 State intends to—

22 “(i) promote and maintain ongoing
23 communication and collaboration between
24 providers of early care and education and
25 local educational agencies in the State;

1 “(ii) align early childhood and kinder-
2 garten curricula to ensure program con-
3 tinuity; and

4 “(iii) ensure that children successfully
5 transition to kindergarten.

6 “(9) TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS.—The plan
7 shall assure that the qualifications and credentials
8 for early childhood teachers meet or exceed the
9 standards in section 648A(a)(2)(A), (B), and (C).

10 “(10) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—The
11 plan shall provide a description of the State plan for
12 assuring the ongoing professional development of
13 early childhood educators and administrators includ-
14 ing how the State intends to—

15 “(A) improve the competencies of early
16 childhood educators in meeting the cognitive
17 and other developmental needs of young chil-
18 dren through effective instructional strategies,
19 methods, and skills;

20 “(B) develop and implement initiatives to
21 effectively recruit and promote the retention of
22 well-qualified early childhood educators;

23 “(C) encourage institutions of higher edu-
24 cation, providers of community-based training,
25 and other qualified providers to develop high-

1 quality programs to prepare students to be
2 early childhood education professionals; and

3 “(D) improve the quality of professional
4 development available to meet the needs of
5 teachers that serve preschool children.

6 “(11) QUALITY STANDARDS.—The State shall
7 describe the State’s standards, applicable to all
8 agencies, programs, and projects that receive funds
9 under this subchapter, including a description of—

10 “(A) standards with respect to services re-
11 quired to be provided, including health, parental
12 involvement, nutritional, social, transition ac-
13 tivities described in section 642(d) of this sub-
14 chapter, and other services;

15 “(B)(i) education standards to promote the
16 school readiness of children participating in a
17 State program under title II of this subchapter;
18 and

19 “(ii) additional education standards to en-
20 sure that the children participating in the pro-
21 gram, at a minimum develop and dem-
22 onstrate—

23 “(I) language skills;

24 “(II) prereading knowledge and skills,
25 including interest in and appreciation of

1 books, reading and writing either alone or
2 with others;

3 “(III) premathematics knowledge and
4 skills, including aspects of classification,
5 seriation, number, spatial relations, and
6 time;

7 “(IV) cognitive abilities related to aca-
8 demic achievement;

9 “(V) social development important for
10 environments constructive for child devel-
11 opment, early learning, and school success;
12 and

13 “(VI) in the case of limited-English
14 proficient children, progress toward acqui-
15 sition of the English language;

16 “(C) the State’s minimum standards for
17 early childhood teacher credentials and quali-
18 fications;

19 “(D) the student-teacher ratio for each
20 age-group served;

21 “(E) administrative and financial manage-
22 ment standards;

23 “(F) standards relating to the condition
24 and location of facilities for such agencies, pro-
25 grams, and projects; and

1 “(G) such other standards as the State
2 finds to be appropriate.

3 “(12) STATE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The State plan
5 shall—

6 “(i) ensure that individual providers
7 are achieving results in advancing the
8 knowledge and behaviors identified by the
9 State as prerequisites for kindergarten
10 success; and

11 “(ii) specify the measures the State
12 will use to evaluate the progress toward
13 achieving such results and the effectiveness
14 of the State program under this section,
15 and of individual providers in such pro-
16 gram.

17 “(B) PUBLICATION OF RESULTS.—

18 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
19 (ii), the results shall be made publicly
20 available in the communities served by the
21 program.

22 “(ii) CONFIDENTIALITY SAFE-
23 GUARDS.—The system shall have in effect
24 privacy safeguards ensuring that informa-
25 tion on children included in data and re-

1 sults made public in accordance with
2 clause (i) shall be in aggregated form, and
3 shall not include information allowing iden-
4 tification of individual children.

5 “(13) TRANSITION PLAN.—The initial State
6 plan shall make provision for transition from the di-
7 rect Federal program under section 640 to the dem-
8 onstration program.

9 “(14) COOPERATION WITH RESEARCH STUD-
10 IES.—The plan shall provide assurances that the
11 State will cooperate with research activities de-
12 scribed in section 649.

13 “(15) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—The State
14 plan shall—

15 “(A) contain a commitment to provide
16 data, at such times and in such format as the
17 Secretary requires, concerning non-Federal ex-
18 penditures and numbers of children and fami-
19 lies served in preschool and Head Start pro-
20 grams during the base year and each fiscal year
21 covered under the State plan, sufficient to sat-
22 isfy the Secretary that the State program will
23 meet its obligation with respect to the mainte-
24 nance of effort requirement under subpara-
25 graph (B); and

1 “(B) assure that the resources (which may
2 be cash or in-kind) contributed by the State
3 government to child care for preschool-aged
4 children and other preschool programs, includ-
5 ing Head Start, in the State (or, if applicable,
6 in the geographic area included in the State
7 program) for each fiscal year in which the pro-
8 gram under this section is in effect shall be in
9 an amount at least equal to the total amount of
10 such State governmental resources contributed
11 to support such programs in the State (or geo-
12 graphic area) for the base year.

13 “(16) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
14 ANCE.—The State plan shall describe the training
15 and technical assistance activities that shall provide
16 high quality, sustained, intensive, and classroom-fo-
17 cused training and technical assistance in order to
18 have a positive and lasting impact on classroom in-
19 struction.

20 “(i) RECORDS, REPORTS AND AUDITS.—The State
21 agency administering the State program, and each entity
22 participating as a Head Start service provider, shall main-
23 tain such records, make such reports, and cooperate with
24 such audits as the Secretary may require for oversight of
25 program activities and expenditures.

1 “(j) INAPPLICABILITY OF PROVISIONS CONCERNING
2 PRIORITY IN AGENCY DESIGNATION.—The provisions of
3 subsections (c) and (d) of section 641 (concerning priority
4 in designation of Head Start agencies, successor agencies,
5 and delegate agencies) shall not apply to a State program
6 under this section.

7 “(k) CONSULTATION.—A State proposing to admin-
8 ister a program under this section shall submit, with the
9 plan under this section, assurances that the plan was de-
10 veloped through timely and meaningful consultation with
11 appropriate public and private sector entities, including—

12 “(1) representatives of agencies responsible for
13 administering early education and care programs in
14 the State, including Head Start providers;

15 “(2) parents;

16 “(3) the State educational agency and local
17 educational agencies;

18 “(4) early childhood education professionals;

19 “(5) kindergarten teachers and teachers in
20 grades 1 through 4;

21 “(6) child welfare agencies;

22 “(7) child care resource and referral agencies;

23 “(8) child care providers; and

1 “(9) a wide array of persons interested in and
2 involved with early care and early education issues
3 in the State, such as representatives of—

4 “(A) health care professionals;

5 “(B) the State agency with responsibility
6 for the special supplemental nutrition program
7 for women, infants, and children established by
8 section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966;

9 “(C) institutions of higher education;

10 “(D) community-based and faith-based or-
11 ganizations;

12 “(E) the business community;

13 “(F) State legislators and local officials;

14 “(G) museums and libraries;

15 “(H) other relevant entities in the State;

16 and

17 “(I) other agencies that provide resources
18 for young children.

19 “(l) STATE PLAN SUBMISSION.—An application shall
20 be submitted by a State pursuant to this section to the
21 Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Edu-
22 cation, and shall be deemed to be approved by the Sec-
23 retary unless the Secretary makes a written determina-
24 tion, prior to the expiration of a reasonable time beginning
25 on the date on which the Secretary received the applica-

1 tion, that the application is not in compliance with this
2 section.

3 “(m) TREATMENT OF FUNDS.—If a State or local
4 government contributes its own funds to supplement ac-
5 tivities carried out under the applicable programs, the
6 State or local government has the option to separate out
7 the Federal funds or commingle them. If the funds are
8 commingled, the provisions of this subchapter shall apply
9 to all of the commingled funds in the same manner, and
10 to the same extent, as the provisions apply to the Federal
11 funds.

12 “(n) FEDERAL OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY; CORREC-
13 TIVE ACTION; WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—

14 “(1) FEDERAL OVERSIGHT.—The Secretary
15 shall retain the authority to oversee the operation of
16 the State program under this section, including
17 through review of records and reports, audits, and
18 onsite inspection of records and facilities and moni-
19 toring of program activities and operations.

20 “(2) CORRECTION OF DEFICIENCIES.—If the
21 Secretary determines that a State program under
22 this section substantially fails to meet the require-
23 ments of this section, the Secretary shall notify the
24 State of the deficiencies identified and require cor-
25 rective action as follows:

1 “(A) DEFICIENCIES CAUSING IMMEDIATE
2 JEOPARDY.—The Secretary shall require imme-
3 diate corrective action to eliminate a deficiency
4 that the Secretary finds threatens the health or
5 safety of staff or program participants or poses
6 a threat to the integrity of Federal funds.

7 “(B) OTHER DEFICIENCIES.—The Sec-
8 retary, taking into consideration the nature and
9 magnitude of a deficiency not described in sub-
10 paragraph (A), and the time reasonably re-
11 quired for correction, may—

12 “(i) require the State to correct the
13 deficiency within 90 days after notification
14 under this paragraph; or

15 “(ii) require the State to implement a
16 quality improvement plan designed to cor-
17 rect the deficiency within one year from
18 identification of the deficiency.

19 “(3) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—If the defi-
20 ciencies identified under paragraph (2) are not cor-
21 rected by the deadlines established by the Secretary,
22 the Secretary shall initiate proceedings to withdraw
23 approval of the State program under this section.

24 “(4) PROCEDURAL RIGHTS.—A State subject to
25 adverse action under this subsection shall have the

1 same procedural rights as a Head Start agency sub-
2 ject to adverse action under section 641A.

3 “(o) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-
5 tract with an independent organization outside of
6 the Department to design and conduct a multi-year,
7 rigorous, scientifically valid, quantitative evaluation
8 of the State demonstration program.

9 “(2) PROCESS.—The Secretary shall award a
10 contract within 180 days of the date of enactment
11 of the School Readiness Act of 2003, to an organiza-
12 tion that is capable of designing and carrying out an
13 independent evaluation described in this subsection.

14 “(3) ANALYSIS.—The evaluation shall include
15 an analysis of each State participating in the State
16 demonstration program, including—

17 “(A) A quantitative description of the
18 State prekindergarten program and Head Start
19 programs within such State, as such programs
20 existed prior to participation in the State dem-
21 onstration program, including:

22 “(i) data on the characteristics of the
23 children served, including the overall num-
24 ber and percentages of children served

1 disaggregated by socioeconomic status,
2 race and ethnicity of those served;

3 “(ii) the quality and characteristics of
4 the services provided to such children; and

5 “(iii) the education attainment of in-
6 structional staff.

7 “(B) A quantitative and qualitative de-
8 scription of the State program after each year
9 of participation in the State demonstration,
10 which shall include each of the following:

11 “(i) A description of changes in the
12 administration of the State program, in-
13 cluding the Head Start program, within
14 such State.

15 “(ii) The rate of progress of the State
16 in improving the school readiness of dis-
17 advantaged children in the key domains of
18 development.

19 “(iii) Data as described in subpara-
20 graph (A), as updated annually.

21 “(iv) The extent to which each State
22 has met the goals established by such
23 State with respect to annual goals as de-
24 scribed under section 643(h)(10).

1 “(4) REPORT.—(A) The Secretary shall provide
2 an interim report on the progress of such evaluation
3 and of the progress of States participating in the
4 State demonstration in increasing the availability of
5 high quality prekindergarten services for low-income
6 children not later than October 1, 2006 to the Com-
7 mittee on Education and the Workforce in the
8 House of Representatives and the Committee on
9 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the Sen-
10 ate.

11 “(B) The Secretary shall provide a final report
12 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce
13 in the House of Representatives and the Committee
14 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the
15 Senate, not later than October 1, 2007, which shall
16 include an overall evaluation of the State demonstra-
17 tion program, including an assessment of its success
18 in increasing the overall availability of high quality
19 prekindergarten services for low income children in
20 each of the participating States as compared to a
21 representative sample of non-participating States.

22 “(p) STATE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.—Fol-
23 lowing the submission of an application fulfilling all re-
24 quirements of this section, a State that meets all eligibility
25 requirements set forth in section 643A(a)(2) and is se-

1 lected by the Secretary to participate in the demonstration
2 program under this section shall:

3 “(1) maintain or increase fiscal year 2003 State
4 funding levels for early childhood education;

5 “(2) provide an additional contribution of non-
6 federal funds equal to 5 percent of the State’s Fed-
7 eral Head Start allotment;

8 “(3) use Head Start funding only for the pur-
9 poses of Head Start as described in section 636;

10 “(4) provide all comprehensive social services
11 currently available to Head Start children, including
12 health and nutrition;

13 “(5) develop a strategy to maximize parental in-
14 volvement to enable parents to become full partners
15 in the education of their children;

16 “(6) demonstrate that the qualifications and
17 credentials for early childhood teachers meet or ex-
18 ceed the standards in section 648A(a)(2)(A), (B),
19 and (C);

20 “(7) enforce quality standards for school readi-
21 ness that are aligned with K–12 educational stand-
22 ards and generally meet or exceed the Federal Head
23 Start performance standards;

1 “(8) continue funding, for a period of 60
2 months, all current Head Start grantees as de-
3 scribed in section 643A(d);

4 “(9) provide services described in section 641A
5 that are at least as extensive as were provided, and
6 to at least as many low-income children and families
7 in the State, in each fiscal year as were provided
8 such services in the base year;

9 “(10) establish a comprehensive collaboration
10 effort to integrate Head Start, state-funded pre-kin-
11 dergarten programs, Even Start, Title I preschool,
12 and Early Reading First;

13 “(11) participate in independent evaluations of
14 the demonstration program authorized under this
15 subchapter; and

16 “(12) submit to Federal oversight by the Sec-
17 retary.

18 “(q) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
19 term ‘base year’ means the fiscal year 2003.”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 25 (legis-
lative day, July 24), 2003.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.