

KEEPING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SAFE ACT OF 2003

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JUNE 12, 2003.—Ordered to be printed  
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Mr. BOEHNER, from the committee of conference,  
submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT

[To accompany S. 342]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 342), to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to make improvements to and reauthorize programs under that Act, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the House and agree to the same with an amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the House amendment, insert the following:

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This Act may be cited as the “Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003”.*

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—*The table of contents of this Act is as follows:*

*Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.*

*TITLE I—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT*

*Sec. 101. Findings.*

*Subtitle A—General Program*

*Sec. 111. National clearinghouse for information relating to child abuse.*

*Sec. 112. Research and assistance activities and demonstrations.*

*Sec. 113. Grants to States and public or private agencies and organizations.*

*Sec. 114. Grants to States for child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment programs.*

*Sec. 115. Grants to States for programs relating to the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases.*

*Sec. 116. Miscellaneous requirements relating to assistance.*

*Sec. 117. Authorization of appropriations.*

*Sec. 118. Reports.*

*Subtitle B—Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse*

- Sec. 121. Purpose and authority.*
- Sec. 122. Eligibility.*
- Sec. 123. Amount of grant.*
- Sec. 124. Existing grants.*
- Sec. 125. Application.*
- Sec. 126. Local program requirements.*
- Sec. 127. Performance measures.*
- Sec. 128. National network for community-based family resource programs.*
- Sec. 129. Definitions.*
- Sec. 130. Authorization of appropriations.*

*Subtitle C—Conforming Amendments*

- Sec. 141. Conforming amendments.*

**TITLE II—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES**

- Sec. 201. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.*
- Sec. 202. Information and services.*
- Sec. 203. Study of adoption placements.*
- Sec. 204. Studies on successful adoptions.*
- Sec. 205. Authorization of appropriations.*

**TITLE III—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE**

- Sec. 301. Findings.*
- Sec. 302. Establishment of local projects.*
- Sec. 303. Evaluations, study, and reports by Secretary.*
- Sec. 304. Authorization of appropriations.*
- Sec. 305. Definitions.*
- Sec. 306. Conforming amendment.*

**TITLE IV—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT**

- Sec. 401. State demonstration grants.*
- Sec. 402. Secretarial responsibilities.*
- Sec. 403. Evaluation.*
- Sec. 404. Information and technical assistance centers.*
- Sec. 405. Related assistance.*
- Sec. 406. Authorization of appropriations.*
- Sec. 407. Grants for State domestic violence coalitions.*
- Sec. 408. Evaluation and monitoring.*
- Sec. 409. Family member abuse information and documentation project.*
- Sec. 410. Model State leadership grants.*
- Sec. 411. National domestic violence hotline and internet grant.*
- Sec. 412. Youth education and domestic violence.*
- Sec. 413. Demonstration grants for community initiatives.*
- Sec. 414. Transitional housing assistance.*
- Sec. 415. Technical and conforming amendments.*
- Sec. 416. Conforming amendment to another Act.*

## **TITLE I—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT**

**SEC. 101. FINDINGS.**

*Section 2 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended—*

*(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “close to 1,000,000” and inserting “approximately 900,000”;*

*(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (11) as paragraphs (4) through (13), respectively;*

*(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:*

*“(2)(A) more children suffer neglect than any other form of maltreatment; and*

*“(B) investigations have determined that approximately 60 percent of children who were victims of maltreatment in 2001 suffered neglect, 19 percent suffered physical abuse, 10 percent suffered sexual abuse, and 7 percent suffered emotional maltreatment;*

*“(3)(A) child abuse can result in the death of a child;*

*“(B) in 2001, an estimated 1,300 children were counted by child protection services to have died as a result of abuse or neglect; and*

*“(C) children younger than 1 year old comprised 41 percent of child abuse fatalities and 85 percent of child abuse fatalities were younger than 6 years of age;”;*

*(4) by striking paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), and inserting the following:*

*“(4)(A) many of these children and their families fail to receive adequate protection and treatment; and*

*“(B) slightly less than half of these children (42 percent in 2001) and their families fail to receive adequate protection or treatment;”;*

*(5) in paragraph (5) (as so redesignated)—*

*(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “organizations” and inserting “community-based organizations”;*

*(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “ensures” and all that follows through “knowledge,” and inserting “recognizes the need for properly trained staff with the qualifications needed”; and*

*(C) in subparagraph (E), by inserting before the semicolon the following: “, which may impact child rearing patterns, while at the same time, not allowing those differences to enable abuse”;*

*(6) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated), by striking “this national child and family emergency” and inserting “child abuse and neglect”; and*

*(7) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated)—*

*(A) by striking “intensive” and inserting “needed”; and*

*(B) by striking “if removal has taken place” and inserting “where appropriate”.*

## **Subtitle A—General Program**

### **SEC. 111. NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO CHILD ABUSE.**

*(a) FUNCTIONS.—Section 103(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5104(b)) is amended—*

*(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “all programs,” and all that follows through “neglect; and” and inserting “all effective programs, including private and community-based programs, that show promise of success with respect to the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect and hold the potential for broad scale implementation and replication;”;*

*(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon;*

*(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);*

*(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:*

“(2) maintain information about the best practices used for achieving improvements in child protective systems;”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) provide technical assistance upon request that may include an evaluation or identification of—

“(A) various methods and procedures for the investigation, assessment, and prosecution of child physical and sexual abuse cases;

“(B) ways to mitigate psychological trauma to the child victim; and

“(C) effective programs carried out by the States under this Act; and

“(5) collect and disseminate information relating to various training resources available at the State and local level to—

“(A) individuals who are engaged, or who intend to engage, in the prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect; and

“(B) appropriate State and local officials to assist in training law enforcement, legal, judicial, medical, mental health, education, and child welfare personnel.”.

(b) **COORDINATION WITH AVAILABLE RESOURCES.**—Section 103(c)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5104(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “105(a); and” and inserting “104(a);”;

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

“(F) collect and disseminate information that describes best practices being used throughout the Nation for making appropriate referrals related to, and addressing, the physical, developmental, and mental health needs of abused and neglected children; and”.

**SEC. 112. RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS.**

(a) **RESEARCH.**—Section 104(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), in the first sentence, by inserting “, including longitudinal research,” after “interdisciplinary program of research”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting before the semicolon the following: “, including the effects of abuse and neglect on a child’s development and the identification of successful early intervention services or other services that are needed”;

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking “judicial procedures” and inserting “judicial systems, including multidisciplinary, coordinated decisionmaking procedures”; and

(ii) by striking “and” at the end; and

(D) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) by redesignating clause (ix) as clause (x); and

(iii) by inserting after clause (viii), the following:

*“(ix) the incidence and prevalence of child maltreatment by a wide array of demographic characteristics such as age, sex, race, family structure, household relationship (including the living arrangement of the resident parent and family size), school enrollment and education attainment, disability, grandparents as caregivers, labor force status, work status in previous year, and income in previous year; and”;*

*(E) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (I); and*

*(F) by inserting after subparagraph (C), the following:*

*“(D) the evaluation and dissemination of best practices consistent with the goals of achieving improvements in the child protective services systems of the States in accordance with paragraphs (1) through (12) of section 106(a);*

*“(E) effective approaches to interagency collaboration between the child protection system and the juvenile justice system that improve the delivery of services and treatment, including methods for continuity of treatment plan and services as children transition between systems;*

*“(F) an evaluation of the redundancies and gaps in the services in the field of child abuse and neglect prevention in order to make better use of resources;*

*“(G) the nature, scope, and practice of voluntary relinquishment for foster care or State guardianship of low income children who need health services, including mental health services;*

*“(H) the information on the national incidence of child abuse and neglect specified in clauses (i) through (xi) of subparagraph (H); and”;*

*(2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:*

*“(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for public comment concerning the priorities proposed under subparagraph (A) and maintain an official record of such public comment.”;*

*(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (4);*

*(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:*

*“(2) RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall conduct research on the national incidence of child abuse and neglect, including the information on the national incidence on child abuse and neglect specified in subparagraphs (i) through (ix) of paragraph (1)(I).*

*“(3) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate a report that contains the results of the research conducted under paragraph (2).”.*

*(b) PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 104(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105(b)) is amended—*

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “nonprofit private agencies and” and inserting “private agencies and community-based”; and

(B) by inserting “, including replicating successful program models,” after “programs and activities”; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) effective approaches being utilized to link child protective service agencies with health care, mental health care, and developmental services to improve forensic diagnosis and health evaluations, and barriers and shortages to such linkages.”

(c) **DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.**—Section 104 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5105) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) **DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.**—The Secretary may award grants to, and enter into contracts with, States or public or private agencies or organizations (or combinations of such agencies or organizations) for time-limited, demonstration projects for the following:

“(1) **PROMOTION OF SAFE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR VISITATION AND EXCHANGE.**—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities to assist such entities in establishing and operating safe, family-friendly physical environments—

“(A) for court-ordered, supervised visitation between children and abusing parents; and

“(B) to safely facilitate the exchange of children for visits with noncustodial parents in cases of domestic violence.

“(2) **EDUCATION IDENTIFICATION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT.**—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that provide educational identification, prevention, and treatment services in cooperation with preschool and elementary and secondary schools.

“(3) **RISK AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT TOOLS.**—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that provide for the development of research-based strategies for risk and safety assessments relating to child abuse and neglect.

“(4) **TRAINING.**—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to entities for projects that involve research-based strategies for innovative training for mandated child abuse and neglect reporters.”

**SEC. 113. GRANTS TO STATES AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.**

(a) **DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.**—Section 105(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(a)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “DEMONSTRATION” and inserting “GRANTS FOR”;

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting “States,” after “contracts with,”;

(B) by striking “nonprofit”; and

(C) by striking “time limited, demonstration”;

(3) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “nonprofit”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “law, education, social work, and other relevant fields” and inserting “law enforcement, judiciary, social work and child protection, education, and other relevant fields, or individuals such as court appointed special advocates (CASAs) and guardian ad litem.”;

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “nonprofit” and all that follows through “; and” and inserting “children, youth and family service organizations in order to prevent child abuse and neglect.”;

(D) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) for training to support the enhancement of linkages between child protective service agencies and health care agencies, including physical and mental health services, to improve forensic diagnosis and health evaluations and for innovative partnerships between child protective service agencies and health care agencies that offer creative approaches to using existing Federal, State, local, and private funding to meet the health evaluation needs of children who have been subjects of substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect;

“(E) for the training of personnel in best practices to promote collaboration with the families from the initial time of contact during the investigation through treatment;

“(F) for the training of personnel regarding the legal duties of such personnel and their responsibilities to protect the legal rights of children and families;

“(G) for improving the training of supervisory and non-supervisory child welfare workers;

“(H) for enabling State child welfare agencies to coordinate the provision of services with State and local health care agencies, alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment agencies, mental health agencies, and other public and private welfare agencies to promote child safety, permanence, and family stability;

“(I) for cross training for child protective service workers in research-based strategies for recognizing situations of substance abuse, domestic violence, and neglect; and

“(J) for developing, implementing, or operating information and education programs or training programs designed to improve the provision of services to disabled infants with life-threatening conditions for—

“(i) professionals and paraprofessional personnel concerned with the welfare of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions, including personnel employed in child protective services programs and health care facilities; and

“(ii) the parents of such infants.”;

(4) by redesignating paragraph (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (1), the following:

“(2) **TRIAGE PROCEDURES.**—The Secretary may award grants under this subsection to public and private agencies that demonstrate innovation in responding to reports of child abuse and neglect, including programs of collaborative partnerships between the State child protective services agency, community social service agencies and family support programs, law enforcement agencies, developmental disability agencies, substance abuse treatment entities, health care entities, domestic violence prevention entities, mental health service entities, schools, churches and synagogues, and other community agencies, to allow for the establishment of a triage system that—

“(A) accepts, screens, and assesses reports received to determine which such reports require an intensive intervention and which require voluntary referral to another agency, program, or project;

“(B) provides, either directly or through referral, a variety of community-linked services to assist families in preventing child abuse and neglect; and

“(C) provides further investigation and intensive intervention where the child’s safety is in jeopardy.”;

(6) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated), by striking “non-profit organizations (such as Parents Anonymous)” and inserting “organizations”;

(7) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking the paragraph heading;

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (C); and

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “(B) KINSHIP CARE.—” and inserting the following:

“(4) **KINSHIP CARE.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—”; and

(ii) by striking “nonprofit”; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) **LINKAGES BETWEEN CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICE AGENCIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AGENCIES.**—The Secretary may award grants to entities that provide linkages between State or local child protective service agencies and public health, mental health, and developmental disabilities agencies, for the purpose of establishing linkages that are designed to help assure that a greater number of substantiated victims of child maltreatment have their physical health, mental health, and developmental needs appropriately diagnosed and treated, in accordance with all applicable Federal and State privacy laws.”.

(b) **DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.**—Section 105(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(b)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “subsection (b)” and inserting “subsection (a)”;

(2) by striking paragraph (1);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

(4) by inserting after paragraph (2) (as so redesignated), the following:

“(3) Programs based within children’s hospitals or other pediatric and adolescent care facilities, that provide model approaches for improving medical diagnosis of child abuse and neglect and for health evaluations of children for whom a report of maltreatment has been substantiated.”; and

(5) in paragraph (4)(D), by striking “nonprofit”.

(c) **EVALUATION.**—Section 105(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106(c)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “demonstration”;

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting “or contract” after “or as a separate grant”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following: “In the case of an evaluation performed by the recipient of a grant, the Secretary shall make available technical assistance for the evaluation, where needed, including the use of a rigorous application of scientific evaluation techniques.”.

(d) **TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO HEADING.**—The section heading for section 105 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 105. GRANTS TO STATES AND PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.”.**

**SEC. 114. GRANTS TO STATES FOR CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS.**

(a) **DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION GRANTS.**—Section 106(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting “, including ongoing case monitoring,” after “case management”; and

(B) by inserting “and treatment” after “and delivery of services”;

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking “improving” and all that follows through “referral systems” and inserting “developing, improving, and implementing risk and safety assessment tools and protocols”;

(3) by striking paragraph (7);

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (6), (8), (9), and (12), respectively;

(5) by inserting after paragraph (4), the following:

“(5) developing and updating systems of technology that support the program and track reports of child abuse and neglect from intake through final disposition and allow interstate and intrastate information exchange;”;

(6) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated), by striking “opportunities” and all that follows through “system” and inserting “including—

“(A) training regarding research-based strategies to promote collaboration with the families;

“(B) training regarding the legal duties of such individuals; and

“(C) personal safety training for case workers;”;

(7) by inserting after paragraph (6) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(7) improving the skills, qualifications, and availability of individuals providing services to children and families, and the supervisors of such individuals, through the child protection system, including improvements in the recruitment and retention of caseworkers;”;

(8) by striking paragraph (9) (as so redesignated), and inserting the following:

“(9) developing and facilitating research-based strategies for training for individuals mandated to report child abuse or neglect;

“(10) developing, implementing, or operating programs to assist in obtaining or coordinating necessary services for families of disabled infants with life-threatening conditions, including—

“(A) existing social and health services;

“(B) financial assistance; and

“(C) services necessary to facilitate adoptive placement of any such infants who have been relinquished for adoption;

“(11) developing and delivering information to improve public education relating to the role and responsibilities of the child protection system and the nature and basis for reporting suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect;”;

(9) in paragraph (12) (as so redesignated), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(10) by adding at the end the following:

“(13) supporting and enhancing interagency collaboration between the child protection system and the juvenile justice system for improved delivery of services and treatment, including methods for continuity of treatment plan and services as children transition between systems; or

“(14) supporting and enhancing collaboration among public health agencies, the child protection system, and private community-based programs to provide child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment services (including linkages with education systems) and to address the health needs, including mental health needs, of children identified as abused or neglected, including supporting prompt, comprehensive health and developmental evaluations for children who are the subject of substantiated child maltreatment reports.”.

(b) **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 106(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) by striking “provide notice to the Secretary of any substantive changes” and inserting the following: “provide notice to the Secretary—

“(i) of any substantive changes; and”;

(ii) by striking the period and inserting “; and”;

and (iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) any significant changes to how funds provided under this section are used to support the activities which may differ from the activities as described in the current State application.”;

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) by redesignating clauses (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x), (xi), (xii), and (xiii) as clauses (iv), (vi), (vii), (viii), (x), (xi), (xii), (xiii), (xiv), (xv), (xvi) and (xvii), respectively;

(ii) by inserting after clause (i), the following:

“(ii) policies and procedures (including appropriate referrals to child protection service systems and for other appropriate services) to address the needs of infants born and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure, including a requirement that health care providers involved in the delivery or care of such infants notify the child protective services system of the occurrence of such condition in such infants, except that such notification shall not be construed to—

“(I) establish a definition under Federal law of what constitutes child abuse; or

“(II) require prosecution for any illegal action;

“(iii) the development of a plan of safe care for the infant born and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms.”;

(iii) in clause (iv) (as so redesignated), by inserting “risk and” before “safety”;

(iv) by inserting after clause (iv) (as so redesignated), the following:

“(v) triage procedures for the appropriate referral of a child not at risk of imminent harm to a community organization or voluntary preventive service.”;

(v) in clause (viii)(II) (as so redesignated), by striking “, having a need for such information in order to carry out its responsibilities under law to protect children from abuse and neglect” and inserting “, as described in clause (ix)”;

(vi) by inserting after clause (viii) (as so redesignated), the following:

“(ix) provisions to require a State to disclose confidential information to any Federal, State, or local government entity, or any agent of such entity, that has a need for such information in order to carry out its responsibilities under law to protect children from abuse and neglect.”;

(vii) in clause (xiii) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by inserting “who has received training appropriate to the role, and” after “guardian ad litem.”; and

(II) by inserting “who has received training appropriate to that role” after “advocate”;

(viii) in clause (xv) (as so redesignated), by striking “to be effective not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section”;

(ix) in clause (xvi) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by striking “to be effective not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section”; and

(II) by striking “and” at the end;

(x) in clause (xvii) (as so redesignated), by striking “clause (xii)” each place that such appears and inserting “clause (xvi)”; and

(xi) by adding at the end the following:

“(xviii) provisions and procedures to require that a representative of the child protective services agency shall, at the initial time of contact with the individual subject to a child abuse and neglect investigation, advise the individual of the complaints or allegations made against the individual, in a manner that is consistent with laws protecting the rights of the informant;

“(xix) provisions addressing the training of representatives of the child protective services system regarding the legal duties of the representatives, which may consist of various methods of informing such representatives of such duties, in order to protect the legal rights and safety of children and families from the initial time of contact during investigation through treatment;

“(xx) provisions and procedures for improving the training, retention, and supervision of caseworkers;

“(xxi) provisions and procedures for referral of a child under the age of 3 who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect to early intervention services funded under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and

“(xxii) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, provisions and procedures for requiring criminal background record checks for prospective foster and adoptive parents and other adult relatives and non-relatives residing in the household;” and

(C) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

“Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to limit the State’s flexibility to determine State policies relating to public access to court proceedings to determine child abuse and neglect, except that such policies shall, at a minimum, ensure the safety and well-being of the child, parents, and families.”.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—Section 106(b)(3) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(3)) is amended by striking “With regard to clauses (v) and (vi) of paragraph (2)(A)” and inserting “With regard to clauses (vi) and (vii) of paragraph (2)(A)”.

(c) **CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.**—Section 106(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

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

(I) by striking “and procedures” and inserting “, procedures, and practices”; and

(II) by striking “the agencies” and inserting “State and local child protection system agencies”; and

(ii) in clause (iii)(I), by striking “State” and inserting “State and local”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—Each panel shall provide for public outreach and comment in order to assess the impact of current procedures and practices upon children and families in the community and in order to meet its obligations under subparagraph (A).”; and

(2) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by striking “public” and inserting “State and the public”; and

(B) by inserting before the period the following: “and recommendations to improve the child protection services system at the State and local levels. Not later than 6 months after the date on which a report is submitted by the panel to the State, the appropriate State agency shall submit a written response to State and local child protection systems and the citizen review panel that describes whether or how the State will incorporate the recommendations of such panel (where appropriate) to make measurable progress in improving the State and local child protective system”.

(d) ANNUAL STATE DATA REPORTS.—Section 106(d) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(13) The annual report containing the summary of the activities of the citizen review panels of the State required by subsection (c)(6).

“(14) The number of children under the care of the State child protection system who are transferred into the custody of the State juvenile justice system.”.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall prepare and submit to Congress a report that describes the extent to which States are implementing the policies and procedures required under section 106(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

**SEC. 115. GRANTS TO STATES FOR PROGRAMS RELATING TO THE INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT CASES.**

Section 107(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106c(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) the handling of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems who are victims of abuse or neglect.”.

**SEC. 116. MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ASSISTANCE.**

*Section 108 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106d) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

*“(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary should encourage all States and public and private agencies or organizations that receive assistance under this title to ensure that children and families with limited English proficiency who participate in programs under this title are provided materials and services under such programs in an appropriate language other than English.*

*“(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—A State that receives funds under section 106(a) shall annually prepare and submit to the Secretary a report describing the manner in which funds provided under this Act, alone or in combination with other Federal funds, were used to address the purposes and achieve the objectives of section 106.”.*

**SEC. 117. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

*(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—Section 112(a)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:*

*“(1) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$120,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2008.”.*

*(b) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—Section 112(a)(2)(B) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106h(a)(2)(B)) is amended—*

*(1) by striking “Secretary make” and inserting “Secretary shall make”; and*

*(2) by striking “section 106” and inserting “section 104”.*

**SEC. 118. REPORTS.**

*Section 110 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106f) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

*“(c) STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS.—*

*“(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study by random sample of the effectiveness of the citizen review panels established under section 106(c).*

*“(2) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report that contains the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1).”.*

## **Subtitle B—Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse**

**SEC. 121. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY.**

*(a) PURPOSE.—Section 201(a)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:*

*“(1) to support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, enhance, and, where appropriate to network, initiatives aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and to support networks of coordinated resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and”.*

*(b) AUTHORITY.—Section 201(b) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116(b)) is amended—*

*(1) in paragraph (1)—*

*(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking “Statewide” and all that follows through the dash, and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate) that are accessible, effective, culturally appropriate, and build upon existing strengths—that—”;*

*(B) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end; and*

*(C) by striking subparagraph (G) and inserting the following:*

*“(G) demonstrate a commitment to meaningful parent leadership, including among parents of children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, and members of other underrepresented or underserved groups; and*

*“(H) provide referrals to early health and developmental services;”;* and

*(2) in paragraph (4)—*

*(A) by inserting “through leveraging of funds” after “maximizing funding”;*

*(B) by striking “a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused”; and*

*(C) by striking “family resource and support program” and inserting “programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)”.*

*(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT TO TITLE HEADING.—Title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116) is amended by striking the heading for such title and inserting the following:*

**“TITLE II—COMMUNITY-BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT”.**

**SEC. 122. ELIGIBILITY.**

*Section 202 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116a) is amended—*

*(1) in paragraph (1)—*

*(A) in subparagraph (A)—*

(i) by striking “a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused”; and

(ii) by striking “family resource and support programs” and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting “programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate);”

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “that exists to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect” after “written authority of the State”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “a network of community-based family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate);”

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “to the network”; and

(ii) by inserting “, and parents with disabilities” before the semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “to the network”;

and

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate);”

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate);”

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and training and technical assistance, to the Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “training, technical assistance, and evaluation assistance, to community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate);” and

(D) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “, parents with disabilities,” after “children with disabilities”.

**SEC. 123. AMOUNT OF GRANT.**

Section 203 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

(A) by striking “as the amount leveraged by the State from private, State, or other non-Federal sources and directed through the” and inserting “as the amount of pri-

vate, State or other non-Federal funds leveraged and directed through the currently designated”;

(B) by striking “State lead agency” and inserting “State lead entity”; and

(C) by striking “the lead agency” and inserting “the current lead entity”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “subsection (b)”.

**SEC. 124. EXISTING GRANTS.**

Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5115c) is repealed.

**SEC. 125. APPLICATION.**

Section 205 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116d) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate)”;

(B) by striking “, including those funded by programs consolidated under this Act,”;

(3) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following: “(3) a description of the inventory of current unmet needs and current community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to prevent child abuse and neglect, and other family resource services operating in the State;”;

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking “State’s network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;

(5) in paragraph (5), by striking “Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “start up, maintenance, expansion, and redesign of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;

(6) in paragraph (7), by striking “individual community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;

(7) in paragraph (8), by striking “community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and

*activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;*

*(8) in paragraph (9), by striking “community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;*

*(9) in paragraph (10), by inserting “(where appropriate)” after “members”;*

*(10) in paragraph (11), by striking “prevention-focused, family resource and support program” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;* and

*(11) by redesignating paragraph (13) as paragraph (12).*

**SEC. 126. LOCAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**

*Section 206(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116e(a)) is amended—*

*(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;*

*(2) in paragraph (3)(B), by inserting “voluntary home visiting and” after “including”;* and

*(3) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following: “(6) participate with other community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect in the development, operation and expansion of networks where appropriate.”.*

**SEC. 127. PERFORMANCE MEASURES.**

*Section 207 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116f) is amended—*

*(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “a Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;*

*(2) by striking paragraph (3), and inserting the following: “(3) shall demonstrate that they will have addressed unmet needs identified by the inventory and description of current services required under section 205(3).”;*

*(3) in paragraph (4),*

*(A) by inserting “and parents with disabilities,” after “children with disabilities,”;* and

*(B) by striking “evaluation of” the first place it appears and all that follows through “under this title” and inserting “evaluation of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect, and in the design, operation and evaluation of the networks of such community-based and prevention-focused programs”;*

(4) in paragraph (5), by striking “, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;

(5) in paragraph (6), by striking “Statewide network of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”;

(6) in paragraph (8), by striking “community based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”.

**SEC. 128. NATIONAL NETWORK FOR COMMUNITY-BASED FAMILY RESOURCE PROGRAMS.**

Section 208(3) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116g(3)) is amended by striking “Statewide networks of community-based, prevention-focused, family resource and support programs” and inserting “community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect”.

**SEC. 129. DEFINITIONS.**

(a) **CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.**—Section 209(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h(1)) is amended by striking “given such term in section 602(a)(2)” and inserting “given the term ‘child with a disability’ in section 602(3) or ‘infant or toddler with a disability’ in section 632(5)”.

(b) **COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.**—Section 209 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h) is amended by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

“(3) **COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.**—The term ‘community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect’ includes organizations such as family resource programs, family support programs, voluntary home visiting programs, respite care programs, parenting education, mutual support programs, and other community programs or networks of such programs that provide activities that are designed to prevent or respond to child abuse and neglect.”.

**SEC. 130. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

Section 210 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116i) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 210. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$80,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2008.”.

## **Subtitle C—Conforming Amendments**

### **SEC. 141. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

*The table of contents of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, as contained in section 1(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note), is amended as follows:*

*(1) By striking the item relating to section 105 and inserting the following:*

*“Sec. 105. Grants to States and public or private agencies and organizations.”.*

*(2) By striking the item relating to title II and inserting the following:*

*“TITLE II—COMMUNITY-BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT”.*

*(3) By striking the item relating to section 204.*

## **TITLE II—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES**

### **SEC. 201. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.**

*Section 201 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5111) is amended—*

*(1) in subsection (a)—*

*(A) by striking paragraphs (1) through (4) and inserting the following:*

*“(1) the number of children in substitute care has increased by nearly 24 percent since 1994, as our Nation’s foster care population included more than 565,000 as of September of 2001;*

*“(2) children entering foster care have complex problems that require intensive services, with many such children having special needs because they are born to mothers who did not receive prenatal care, are born with life threatening conditions or disabilities, are born addicted to alcohol or other drugs, or have been exposed to infection with the etiologic agent for the human immunodeficiency virus;*

*“(3) each year, thousands of children are in need of placement in permanent, adoptive homes;”;*

*(B) by striking paragraph (6);*

*(C) by striking paragraph (7)(A) and inserting the following:*

*“(7)(A) currently, there are 131,000 children waiting for adoption;”;* and

*(D) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (7), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8) respectively; and*

*(2) in subsection (b)—*

*(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “, including geographic barriers,” after “barriers”; and*

*(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “a national” and inserting “an Internet-based national”.*

### **SEC. 202. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.**

*Section 203 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5113) is amended—*

(1) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

**“SEC. 203. INFORMATION AND SERVICES.”;**

(2) by striking “SEC. 203. (a) The Secretary” and inserting the following:

**“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;**

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by inserting “REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—” after “(b)”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “nonprofit” each place that such appears;

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking “nonprofit”;

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking “nonprofit”;

(E) in paragraph (4), by striking “nonprofit”;

(F) in paragraph (6), by striking “study the nature, scope, and effects of” and insert “support”;

(G) in paragraph (7), by striking “nonprofit”;

(H) in paragraph (9)—

(i) by striking “nonprofit”; and

(ii) by striking “and” at the end;

(I) in paragraph (10)—

(i) by striking “nonprofit”; each place that such appears; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(J) by adding at the end the following:

*“(11) provide (directly or by grant to or contract with States, local government entities, or public or private licensed child welfare or adoption agencies) for the implementation of programs that are intended to increase the number of older children (who are in foster care and with the goal of adoption) placed in adoptive families, with a special emphasis on child-specific recruitment strategies, including—*

*“(A) outreach, public education, or media campaigns to inform the public of the needs and numbers of older youth available for adoption;*

*“(B) training of personnel in the special needs of older youth and the successful strategies of child-focused, child-specific recruitment efforts; and*

*“(C) recruitment of prospective families for such children.”;*

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “(c)(1) The Secretary” and inserting the following:

**“(c) SERVICES FOR FAMILIES ADOPTING SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN.—**

**“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;**

(B) by striking “(2) Services” and inserting the following:

**“(2) SERVICES.—Services”; and**

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by realigning the margins of subparagraphs (A) through (G) accordingly;

(ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(H) day treatment; and

“(I) respite care.”; and

(D) by striking “nonprofit”; each place that such appears;

(5) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking “(d)(1) The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(d) IMPROVING PLACEMENT RATE OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;

(B) by striking “(2)(A) Each State” and inserting the following:

“(2) APPLICATIONS; TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) APPLICATIONS.—Each State”;

(C) by striking “(B) The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(B) TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary”;

(D) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) by realigning the margins of clauses (i) and (ii) accordingly; and

(ii) by striking “nonprofit”;

(E) by striking “(3)(A) Payments” and inserting the following:

“(3) PAYMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Payments”; and

(F) by striking “(B) Any payment” and inserting the following:

“(B) REVERSION OF UNUSED FUNDS.—Any payment”;

and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) ELIMINATION OF BARRIERS TO ADOPTIONS ACROSS JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants to, or enter into contracts with, States, local government entities, public or private child welfare or adoption agencies, adoption exchanges, or adoption family groups to carry out initiatives to improve efforts to eliminate barriers to placing children for adoption across jurisdictional boundaries.

“(2) SERVICES TO SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Services provided under grants made under this subsection shall supplement, not supplant, services provided using any other funds made available for the same general purposes including—

“(A) developing a uniform homestudy standard and protocol for acceptance of homestudies between States and jurisdictions;

“(B) developing models of financing cross-jurisdictional placements;

“(C) expanding the capacity of all adoption exchanges to serve increasing numbers of children;

*“(D) developing training materials and training social workers on preparing and moving children across State lines; and*

*“(E) developing and supporting initiative models for networking among agencies, adoption exchanges, and parent support groups across jurisdictional boundaries.”.*

**SEC. 203. STUDY OF ADOPTION PLACEMENTS.**

*Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5114) is amended—*

*(1) by striking “The” and inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—The”;*

*(2) by striking “of this Act” and inserting “of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003”;*

*(3) by striking “to determine the nature” and inserting “to determine—*

*“(1) the nature”;*

*(4) by striking “which are not licensed” and all that follows through “entity”;*; and

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

*“(2) how interstate placements are being financed across State lines;*

*“(3) recommendations on best practice models for both interstate and intrastate adoptions; and*

*“(4) how State policies in defining special needs children differentiate or group similar categories of children.”.*

**SEC. 204. STUDIES ON SUCCESSFUL ADOPTIONS.**

*Section 204 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5114) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

*“(b) DYNAMICS OF SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION.—The Secretary shall conduct research (directly or by grant to, or contract with, public or private nonprofit research agencies or organizations) about adoption outcomes and the factors affecting those outcomes. The Secretary shall submit a report containing the results of such research to the appropriate committees of the Congress not later than the date that is 36 months after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.*

*“(c) INTERJURISDICTIONAL ADOPTION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a report that contains recommendations for an action plan to facilitate the interjurisdictional adoption of foster children.”.*

**SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

*Section 205(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 5115(a)) is amended to read as follows:*

*“There are authorized to be appropriated \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2008 to carry out programs and activities authorized under this subtitle.”.*

### **TITLE III—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE**

**SEC. 301. FINDINGS.**

Section 2 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

- (1) by striking paragraph (1);
- (2) in paragraph (2)—
  - (A) by inserting “studies indicate that a number of factors contribute to” before “the inability of”;
  - (B) by inserting “some” after “inability of”;
  - (C) by striking “who abuse drugs”; and
  - (D) by striking “care for such infants” and inserting “care for their infants”;
- (3) by amending paragraph (5) to read as follows:
  - “(5) appropriate training is needed for personnel working with infants and young children with life-threatening conditions and other special needs, including those who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (commonly known as ‘HIV’), those who have acquired immune deficiency syndrome (commonly known as ‘AIDS’), and those who have been exposed to dangerous drugs;”;
- (4) by striking paragraphs (6) and (7);
- (5) in paragraph (8)—
  - (A) by striking “such infants and young children” and inserting “infants and young children who are abandoned in hospitals”; and
  - (B) by inserting “by parents abusing drugs,” after “deficiency syndrome.”;
- (6) in paragraph (9), by striking “comprehensive services” and all that follows through the semicolon at the end and inserting “comprehensive support services for such infants and young children and their families and services to prevent the abandonment of such infants and young children, including foster care services, case management services, family support services, respite and crisis intervention services, counseling services, and group residential home services;”;
- (7) by striking paragraph (11);
- (8) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), (8), (9), and (10) as paragraphs (1) through (7), respectively; and
- (9) by adding at the end the following:
  - “(8) private, Federal, State, and local resources should be coordinated to establish and maintain services described in paragraph (7) and to ensure the optimal use of all such resources.”.

**SEC. 302. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL PROJECTS.**

Section 101 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

- (1) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:
  - “**SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL PROJECTS.**”;
  - and
  - (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) **PRIORITY IN PROVISION OF SERVICES.**—*The Secretary may not make a grant under subsection (a) unless the applicant for the grant agrees to give priority to abandoned infants and young children who—*

“(1) *are infected with, or have been perinatally exposed to, the human immunodeficiency virus, or have a life-threatening illness or other special medical need; or*

“(2) *have been perinatally exposed to a dangerous drug.*”.

**SEC. 303. EVALUATIONS, STUDY, AND REPORTS BY SECRETARY.**

*Section 102 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended to read as follows:*

**“SEC. 102. EVALUATIONS, STUDY, AND REPORTS BY SECRETARY.**

“(a) **EVALUATIONS OF LOCAL PROGRAMS.**—*The Secretary shall, directly or through contracts with public and nonprofit private entities, provide for evaluations of projects carried out under section 101 and for the dissemination of information developed as a result of such projects.*

“(b) **STUDY AND REPORT ON NUMBER OF ABANDONED INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—*The Secretary shall conduct a study for the purpose of determining—*

“(A) *an estimate of the annual number of infants and young children relinquished, abandoned, or found deceased in the United States and the number of such infants and young children who are infants and young children described in section 101(b);*

“(B) *an estimate of the annual number of infants and young children who are victims of homicide;*

“(C) *characteristics and demographics of parents who have abandoned an infant within 1 year of the infant’s birth; and*

“(D) *an estimate of the annual costs incurred by the Federal Government and by State and local governments in providing housing and care for abandoned infants and young children.*

“(2) **DEADLINE.**—*Not later than 36 months after the date of enactment of the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, the Secretary shall complete the study required under paragraph (1) and submit to Congress a report describing the findings made as a result of the study.*

“(c) **EVALUATION.**—*The Secretary shall evaluate and report on effective methods of intervening before the abandonment of an infant or young child so as to prevent such abandonments, and effective methods for responding to the needs of abandoned infants and young children.*”.

**SEC. 304. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—*Section 104 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—*

(1) *by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:*

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

“(1) **AUTHORIZATION.**—*For the purpose of carrying out this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated \$45,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through 2008.*

“(2) *LIMITATION.*—Not more than 5 percent of the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) for any fiscal year may be obligated for carrying out section 102(a).”;

(2) by striking subsection (b);

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “*AUTHORIZATION.*—” after “(1)” the first place it appears; and

(ii) by striking “this title” and inserting “this Act”;

and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting “*LIMITATION.*—” after “(2)”; and

(ii) by striking “fiscal year 1991.” and inserting “fiscal year 2003.”; and

(4) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections

(b) and (c), respectively.

(b) *REDESIGNATION.*—The Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 104 as section 302; and

(2) by moving that section 302 to the end of that Act.

**SEC. 305. DEFINITIONS.**

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 301 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.**

*“In this Act:*

“(1) *ABANDONED; ABANDONMENT.*—The terms ‘abandoned’ and ‘abandonment’, used with respect to infants and young children, mean that the infants and young children are medically cleared for discharge from acute-care hospital settings, but remain hospitalized because of a lack of appropriate out-of-hospital placement alternatives.

“(2) *ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME.*—The term ‘acquired immune deficiency syndrome’ includes infection with the etiologic agent for such syndrome, any condition indicating that an individual is infected with such etiologic agent, and any condition arising from such etiologic agent.

“(3) *DANGEROUS DRUG.*—The term ‘dangerous drug’ means a controlled substance, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802).

“(4) *NATURAL FAMILY.*—The term ‘natural family’ shall be broadly interpreted to include natural parents, grandparents, family members, guardians, children residing in the household, and individuals residing in the household on a continuing basis who are in a care-giving situation, with respect to infants and young children covered under this Act.

“(5) *SECRETARY.*—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.”.

(b) *REPEAL.*—Section 103 of the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is repealed.

**SEC. 306. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

Section 421(7) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5061(7)) is amended by striking “infant described in section 103” and inserting “infant who is abandoned, as defined in section 301”.

## **TITLE IV—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT**

### **SEC. 401. STATE DEMONSTRATION GRANTS.**

(a) *UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.*—Section 303(a)(2)(C) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10402(a)(2)(C)) is amended by striking “underserved populations,” and all that follows and inserting the following: “underserved populations, as defined in section 2007 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg-2);”.

(b) *REPORT.*—Section 303(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10402(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) Upon completion of the activities funded by a grant under this title, the State shall submit to the Secretary a report that contains a description of the activities carried out under paragraph (2)(B)(i).”.

(c) *CHILDREN WHO WITNESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.*—Section 303 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10402) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (d) through (g), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) The Secretary shall use funds provided under section 310(a)(2), for a fiscal year described in section 310(a)(2), to award grants for demonstration programs that provide—

“(1) multisystem interventions and services (either directly or by referral) for children who witness domestic violence; and

“(2) training (either directly or by referral) for agencies, providers, and other entities who work with such children.”.

### **SEC. 402. SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.**

Section 305(a) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10404(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “an employee” and inserting “1 or more employees”;

(2) by striking “of this title.” and inserting “of this title, including carrying out evaluation and monitoring under this title.”; and

(3) by striking “The individual” and inserting “Any individual”.

### **SEC. 403. EVALUATION.**

Section 306 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10405) is amended in the first sentence by striking “Not later than two years after the date on which funds are obligated under section 303(a) for the first time after the date of the enactment of this title, and every two years thereafter,” and inserting “Every 2 years,”.

### **SEC. 404. INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS.**

Section 308 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10407) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) *NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER.*—The national resource center established under subsection (a)(2)—

“(1) shall offer resource, policy, collaboration, and training assistance to Federal, State, and local government agencies, to

domestic violence service providers, and to other professionals and interested parties on issues pertaining to domestic violence, including issues relating to children who witness domestic violence; and

“(2) shall maintain a central resource library in order to collect, prepare, analyze, and disseminate information and statistics, and analyses of the information and statistics, relating to the incidence and prevention of family violence (particularly the prevention of repeated incidents of violence) and the provision of immediate shelter and related assistance.”; and

(2) by striking subsection (g).

**SEC. 405. RELATED ASSISTANCE.**

Section 309(5) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10408(5)) is amended by striking the second sentence and inserting the following: “The term ‘related assistance’ shall include—

“(A) prevention services such as outreach and prevention services for victims and their children, assistance to children who witness domestic violence, employment training, parenting and other educational services for victims and their children, preventive health services within domestic violence programs (including services promoting nutrition, disease prevention, exercise, and prevention of substance abuse), domestic violence prevention programs for school-age children, family violence public awareness campaigns, and violence prevention counseling services to abusers;

“(B) counseling with respect to family violence, counseling or other supportive services provided by peers individually or in groups, and referral to community social services;

“(C) transportation, technical assistance with respect to obtaining financial assistance under Federal and State programs, and referrals for appropriate health care services (including alcohol and drug abuse treatment), but shall not include reimbursement for any health care services;

“(D) legal advocacy to provide victims with information and assistance through the civil and criminal courts, and legal assistance; or

“(E) children’s counseling and support services, and child care services for children who are victims of family violence or the dependents of such victims, and children who witness domestic violence.”.

**SEC. 406. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) **GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.**—Section 310(a) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10409(a)) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

“(1) **AUTHORIZATION.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out sections 303 through 311, \$175,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008.

“(2) **PROJECTS TO ADDRESS NEEDS OF CHILDREN WHO WITNESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**—For a fiscal year in which the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) exceed

\$130,000,000, the Secretary shall reserve and make available a portion of the excess to carry out section 303(c).”.

(b) **ALLOCATIONS FOR OTHER PROGRAMS.**—Subsections (b), (c), and (d) of section 310 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10409) are amended by inserting “(and not reserved under subsection (a)(2))” after “each fiscal year”.

(c) **GRANTS FOR STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS.**—Section 311(g) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10410(g)) is amended to read as follows:

“(g) **FUNDING.**—Of the amount appropriated under section 310(a) for a fiscal year (and not reserved under section 310(a)(2)), not less than 10 percent of such amount shall be made available to award grants under this section.”.

**SEC. 407. GRANTS FOR STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COALITIONS.**

Section 311 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10410) is amended by striking subsection (h).

**SEC. 408. EVALUATION AND MONITORING.**

Section 312 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10412) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) Of the amount appropriated under section 310(a) for each fiscal year (and not reserved under section 310(a)(2)), not more than 2.5 percent shall be used by the Secretary for evaluation, monitoring, and other administrative costs under this title.”.

**SEC. 409. FAMILY MEMBER ABUSE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT.**

Section 313 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10413) is repealed.

**SEC. 410. MODEL STATE LEADERSHIP GRANTS.**

Section 315 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10415) is repealed.

**SEC. 411. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE AND INTERNET GRANT.**

Section 316 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10416) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 316. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE AND INTERNET GRANT.**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may award 1 or more grants to private, nonprofit entities—

“(1) to provide for the establishment and operation of a national, toll-free telephone hotline to provide information and assistance to victims of domestic violence; or

“(2) to provide for the establishment and operation of a highly secure Internet website to provide that information and assistance to those victims.

“(b) **DURATION.**—A grant under this section may extend over a period of not more than 5 years.

“(c) **ANNUAL APPROVAL.**—The provision of payments under a grant awarded under this section shall be subject to annual approval by the Secretary and subject to the availability of appropriations for each fiscal year to make the payments.

“(d) **HOTLINE ACTIVITIES.**—An entity that receives a grant under this section for activities described, in whole or in part, in subsection (a)(1) shall use funds made available through the grant

to establish and operate a national, toll-free telephone hotline to provide information and assistance to victims of domestic violence. In establishing and operating the hotline, the entity shall—

“(1) contract with a carrier for the use of a toll-free telephone line;

“(2) employ, train, and supervise personnel to answer incoming calls and provide counseling and referral services to callers on a 24-hour-a-day basis;

“(3) assemble and maintain a current database of information relating to services for victims of domestic violence to which callers may be referred throughout the United States, including information on the availability of shelters that serve battered women; and

“(4) publicize the hotline to potential users throughout the United States.

“(e) **SECURE WEBSITE ACTIVITIES.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—An entity that receives a grant under this section for activities described, in whole or in part, in subsection (a)(2) shall use funds made available through the grant to provide grants for startup and operational costs associated with establishing and operating a highly secure Internet website.

“(2) **AVAILABILITY.**—The website shall be available to the entity operating the hotline and domestic violence shelters.

“(3) **INFORMATION.**—The website shall provide accurate information that describes—

“(A) the services available to victims of domestic violence, including health care and mental health services, social services, transportation, services for children (including children who witness domestic violence), and other relevant services; and

“(B) the domestic violence shelters available, and services provided by the shelters.

“(4) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to require any shelter or service provider, whether public or private, to be linked to the website or to provide information to the recipient of the grant described in paragraph (1) or to the website.

“(f) **APPLICATION.**—The Secretary may not award a grant under this section unless the Secretary approves an application for such grant. To be approved by the Secretary under this subsection an application shall—

“(1) contain such agreements, assurances, and information, be in such form, and be submitted in such manner, as the Secretary shall prescribe through notice in the Federal Register;

“(2) in the case of an application for a grant to carry out activities described in subsection (a)(1), include a complete description of the applicant’s plan for the operation of a national domestic violence hotline, including descriptions of—

“(A) the training program for hotline personnel;

“(B) the hiring criteria for hotline personnel;

“(C) the methods for the creation, maintenance, and updating of a resource database;

“(D) a plan for publicizing the availability of the hotline;

“(E) a plan for providing service to non-English speaking callers, including service through hotline personnel who speak Spanish; and

“(F) a plan for facilitating access to the hotline by persons with hearing impairments;

“(3) in the case of an application for a grant to carry out activities described in subsection (a)(2)—

“(A) include a complete description of the applicant’s plan for the development, operation, maintenance, and updating of information and resources of the website;

“(B) include a certification that the applicant will implement a high level security system to ensure the confidentiality of the website, taking into consideration the safety of domestic violence victims; and

“(C) include an assurance that, after the third year of the website project, the recipient of the grant will develop a plan to secure other public or private funding resources to ensure the continued operation and maintenance of the website;

“(4) demonstrate that the applicant has recognized expertise in the area of domestic violence and a record of high quality service to victims of domestic violence, including a demonstration of support from advocacy groups;

“(5) demonstrate that the applicant has a commitment to diversity, and to the provision of services to ethnic, racial, and non-English speaking minorities, in addition to older individuals and individuals with disabilities; and

“(6) contain such other information as the Secretary may require.

“(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$3,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008.

“(2) CONDITIONS ON APPROPRIATIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make available a portion of the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) to award grants under subsection (a)(2) only for any fiscal year for which the amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) exceed \$3,000,000.

“(3) AVAILABILITY.—Funds authorized to be appropriated under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.”.

**SEC. 412. YOUTH EDUCATION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

Section 317 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10417) is repealed.

**SEC. 413. DEMONSTRATION GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 318(h) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10418(h)) is amended to read as follows:

“(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008.”.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Section 318 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10418) is amended by striking subsection (i).

**SEC. 414. TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE.**

*Section 319(f) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10419(f)) is amended by striking “fiscal year 2001” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2003 through 2008”.*

**SEC. 415. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

*The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) is amended—*

*(1) in section 302(1) (42 U.S.C. 10401(1)) by striking “demonstrate the effectiveness of assisting” and inserting “assist”;*

*(2) in section 303(a) (42 U.S.C. 10402(a))—*

*(A) in paragraph (2)—*

*(i) in subparagraph (C), by striking “State domestic violence coalitions knowledgeable individuals and interested organizations” and inserting “State domestic violence coalitions, knowledgeable individuals, and interested organizations”; and*

*(ii) in subparagraph (F), by adding “and” at the end; and*

*(B) by aligning the margins of paragraph (4) with the margins of paragraph (3);*

*(3) in section 303(g) (as so redesignated)—*

*(A) in the first sentence, by striking “309(4)” and inserting “320”; and*

*(B) in the second sentence, by striking “309(5)(A)” and inserting “320(5)(A)”;*

*(4) in section 305(b)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 10404(b)(2)(A)) by striking “provide for research, and into” and inserting “provide for research into”;*

*(5) by redesignating section 309 as section 320 and moving that section to the end of the Act; and*

*(6) in section 311(a) (42 U.S.C. 10410(a))—*

*(A) in paragraph (2)(K), by striking “other criminal justice professionals,” and inserting “other criminal justice professionals;” and*

*(B) in paragraph (3)—*

*(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “family law judges,,” and inserting “family law judges;”;*

*(ii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “, criminal court judges,” after “family law judges”; and*

*(iii) in subparagraph (H), by striking “supervised visitations that do not endanger victims and their children” and inserting “supervised visitations or denial of visitation to protect against danger to victims or their children”.*

**SEC. 416. CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO ANOTHER ACT.**

*Section 102(42) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002(42)) is amended by striking “(42 U.S.C. 10408)”.*

*And the House agree to the same.*

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

JOHN BOEHNER,  
PETE HOEKSTRA,  
JON PORTER,  
JAMES GREENWOOD,  
CHARLIE NORWOOD,  
PHIL GINGREY,  
MAX BURNS,  
GEORGE MILLER,  
RUBÉN HINOJOSA,  
SUSAN A. DAVIS,  
TIM RYAN,  
DANNY K. DAVIS,

*Managers on the Part of the House.*

JUDD GREGG,  
LAMAR ALEXANDER,  
MIKE DEWINE,  
EDWARD M. KENNEDY,  
CHRIS DODD,

*Managers on the Part of the Senate.*



## JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 342), to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to make improvements to and reauthorize programs under that Act, and for other purposes, submit the following joint statement to the House and the Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying conference report:

### THE KEEPING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SAFE ACT OF 2003— EXPLANATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The conference agreement to S. 342, the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003, builds upon reforms made during the last reauthorization of CAPTA and FVPSA to improve program implementation and make improvements to current law to ensure that states have the necessary resources and flexibility to properly address issues of child abuse and neglect and family violence. It makes changes that serve to assist states in improving their child protective services systems and enhance the federal government's role in providing support for the child protective services system infrastructure. The conference agreement also makes changes to better serve victims of domestic violence and their dependents.

The Senate bill and House amendment were very similar with only a few major differences. This conference report reflects the agreements on these major differences.

#### CAPTA

##### *Comprehensive Adolescent Victim/Victimizer Program*

The Senate bill, but not the House amendment, includes a new demonstration program that establishes a network of trainers who will work with schools to implement school-based adolescent victim/victimizer programs that are comprehensive, meet state guidelines for health education, and reduce child sexual abuse by focusing on prevention for both adolescent victims and victimizers.

The conference agreement does not include this provision.

##### *Safety Training for Caseworkers*

The Senate bill, but not the House amendment, includes language to permit "personal safety training for caseworkers" as part of the training for which states may use their CAPTA dollars. Personal safety training will help child protective services personnel be prepared when faced with a variety of complex situations and emotions as they confront families with allegations of child abuse and neglect.

The conference agreement includes this provision with no modifications.

#### *Infants Born Addicted to Substances*

The House amendment and the Senate bill include provisions to address the needs of infants born and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms. The House amendment requires procedures for infants born with fetal alcohol effects, fetal alcohol syndrome, neonatal intoxication or withdrawal syndrome, or neonatal physical or neurological harm resulting from prenatal drug exposure. The Senate bill requires procedures for infants born and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure. The House amendment, but not the Senate, requires the notification of child protective services and permits the consideration of providing the mother with additional services, and providing the infant with referral to IDEA, Part C services for evaluation.

The conference agreement follows the Senate bill with a modification. The agreement includes the requirement that health care providers involved in the delivery or care of infants born and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms notify child protective services of the occurrence of such condition in such infants.

#### *GAO Study*

The Senate bill, but not the House amendment, includes a study to have GAO review and evaluate training (including cross-training in domestic violence and substance abuse) of child protective services workers including the effects of caseloads, compensation and supervision of staff; the efficiencies and effectiveness of agencies that provide cross-training with court personnel; and recommendations to strengthen child protective services effectiveness to improve outcomes for children.

The conference agreement does not include this provision. The House and Senate conferees agree to write a joint letter to GAO to request the study be conducted.

#### *Children's Justice Act*

The House amendment, but not the Senate bill, includes language to allow states to handle cases involving children with disabilities or serious health conditions with their children's justice grant funding. Children's justice grants help states improve their child protection programs in investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases.

The conference agreement includes this provision with no modifications.

#### *IDEA*

The House amendment, but not the Senate bill, requires states to have provisions and procedures for referral of a child under the age of 3 who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect to the statewide early intervention program funded under Part C, of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for an evaluation of services.

The conference agreement does not include this provision. The conferees agree to provide for a reference to similar provisions for referral of such children in Part C of IDEA.

#### *State CAPTA Reports*

The Senate bill, but not the House amendment, requires states to report on the manner in which CAPTA dollars, alone or in combination with other funds, were used to address the purposes and achieve the objectives of Kinship Care. Kinship care is a living situation in which a grandparent, other close relative or someone else who is emotionally close to a child takes primary responsibility for the care of that child.

The conference agreement includes this provision with modifications. The agreement requires states to report on all CAPTA programs, rather than just Kinship Care.

#### *Respite Care*

The House amendment, but not the Senate bill, adds respite care, home visiting and family support services to the list of optional core services that a state may provide as a part of family support services under Community-Based Programs within CAPTA.

The conference agreement does not include this provision. However, the conferees want to recognize the importance of respite care and other services as positive, cost-effective, community-based child abuse and neglect prevention programs. As evidence shows, respite and crises care programs are effective prevention strategies associated with avoiding more costly and traumatic out-of-home placements, including foster care. By retaining current law for local program criteria, the conferees have not intended to discourage or limit the ability of the lead entity or local program to provide or arrange for respite care.

#### FVPSA

#### *Children Who Witness Domestic Violence*

The Senate bill, but not the House amendment, establishes a new program to address the needs of children who witness domestic violence to provide direct services; training for and collaboration among child welfare agencies, domestic violence victim service providers, courts, law enforcement and other entities, and multi-system interventions. This new program is conditioned upon appropriations exceeding \$150 million. At such time 50 percent of the excess must be used to fund this program.

The conference agreement follows the intent of the Senate bill with modifications. The agreement would not create a new program. The agreement adds services for children who witness domestic violence to the list of allowable activities under the state demonstration grants within FVPSA. It requires that once appropriations exceed \$130 million for the state demonstration grants, that grants include programs of multi-system interventions, training, and services (either directly or by referral) for children who witness domestic violence. The agreement also requires the national resource center to include children who witness domestic vio-

lence as part of their research and training services, and adds children who witness domestic violence to the definition of “related assistance.”

*Domestic Violence Hotline/Internet Enhancement*

The Senate bill, but not the House amendment, creates a new five year grant program to establish and operate a highly secure Internet website that links the national domestic violence hotline, U.S. domestic violence shelters, state and local domestic violence agencies, and other domestic violence organizations in order to connect a victim of domestic violence to domestic violence shelters. The website must also contain continuously updated information concerning the availability of services and space in domestic violence shelters across the U.S. This new program is conditioned upon appropriations for the domestic violence hotline exceeding \$3 million. The Senate bill, but not the House amendment, increases the authorization for the domestic violence hotline from \$2 million to \$4 million. The domestic violence hotline is currently funded at \$2.6 million.

The conference agreement follows the intent of the Senate bill with modifications. The agreement would not create a new program. The agreement requires that once appropriations for the domestic violence hotline exceed \$3 million, grants shall be made for startup and operational costs associated with establishing a highly secure Internet website available to the hotline and to shelters. The website shall serve as a database of information describing the services available to victims of domestic violence, including medical and mental health services, social services, transportation, services for children (including children who witness domestic violence) and other relevant services; domestic violence shelters available; and services provided by participating shelters. The authorization for the domestic violence hotline is \$3.5 million. As a result of recent significant authorization and appropriation increases occurring since the committee’s last consideration of this act, the conferees believe an authorization level of \$3.5 million will sustain the services provided as a part of the domestic violence hotline during the current five year authorization without the need for intervening authorizations.

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference:

JOHN BOEHNER,  
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