

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2343

To expand quality programs of early childhood home visitation that increase school readiness, child abuse and neglect prevention, and early identification of developmental and health delays, including potential mental health concerns, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 16, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. PLATTS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To expand quality programs of early childhood home visitation that increase school readiness, child abuse and neglect prevention, and early identification of developmental and health delays, including potential mental health concerns, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Education Begins at
5 Home Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

3 (1) the home is the first and most important
4 learning environment for children, and parents are
5 their children’s first and most influential teacher;

6 (2) through parent education and family sup-
7 port, we can promote parents’ ability to enhance
8 their children’s development from birth until entry
9 into kindergarten thereby helping parents to prepare
10 their children for success in school;

11 (3) undiagnosed and unaddressed develop-
12 mental and health problems can impede overall child
13 development and school readiness;

14 (4) all parents deserve and can benefit from—

15 (A) research-based information regarding
16 child development;

17 (B) enrichment opportunities with their
18 children; and

19 (C) early opportunities to become involved
20 with their community and schools; and

21 (5) early childhood home visitation leads to
22 positive outcomes for children and families, including
23 readiness for school, improved child health and de-
24 velopment, positive parenting practices, and reduc-
25 tions in child maltreatment.

1 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are as fol-
2 lows:

3 (1) To enable States, Indian tribes, tribal orga-
4 nizations, territories, or possessions to deliver qual-
5 ity programs of early childhood home visitation to
6 pregnant women and parents of children from birth
7 until entry into kindergarten in order to promote
8 positive outcomes for children and families including:
9 readiness for school, improved child health and de-
10 velopment, positive parenting practices, reductions in
11 child maltreatment, and enhanced parenting abilities
12 to support their children’s optimal cognitive, lan-
13 guage, social-emotional, and physical development.

14 (2) To improve Early Head Start programs car-
15 ried out under section 645A of the Head Start Act
16 (42 U.S.C. 9840a).

17 (3) To expand quality programs of early child-
18 hood home visitation so as to more effectively reach
19 and serve families with English language learners.

20 (4) To expand quality programs of early child-
21 hood home visitation so as to more effectively reach
22 and serve families serving in the military.

23 (5) To establish a public education and aware-
24 ness campaign concerning the importance of the
25 proper care of infants and young children.

1 (6) To make available for parents of newborn
2 children parenting classes that convey information
3 about the importance of proper care for newborns,
4 including information about symptoms of abusive
5 head and other injuries.

6 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) **ELIGIBLE FAMILY.**—The term “eligible
9 family” means—

10 (A) a woman who is pregnant and the fa-
11 ther of the child if the father is available; or

12 (B) a parent or primary caregiver of a
13 child, including grandparents or other relatives
14 of the child, and foster parents, who are serving
15 as the primary caregiver from birth until entry
16 into kindergarten, including a noncustodial par-
17 ent who has an on-going relationship with and,
18 at times, provides physical care for such child.

19 (2) **HOME VISITATION.**—The term “home visi-
20 tation” means services provided in the permanent or
21 temporary residence, or in a mutually agreed upon
22 location in the community, of the individual receiv-
23 ing such services.

24 (3) **INDIAN TRIBE.**—The term “Indian tribe”
25 has the meaning given such term in section 4(e) of

1 the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assist-
2 ance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

3 (4) SECRETARY.—Except as provided in section
4 8, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of
5 Health and Human Services.

6 (5) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
7 the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the
8 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

9 (6) TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS.—The
10 term “territories and possessions” shall include
11 American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the North-
12 ern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the United States
13 Virgin Islands.

14 (7) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “tribal
15 organization” has the meaning given the term in
16 section 4(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and
17 Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

18 **SEC. 4. GRANTS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITA-**
19 **TION.**

20 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, in consultation
21 with the Secretary of Education, shall make grants to
22 States, Indian tribes, tribal organizations, territories and
23 possessions to enable States, Indian tribes, tribal organi-
24 zations, territories and possessions to establish or expand
25 quality programs of early childhood home visitation as

1 specified under subsection (f). Each grant shall consist of
2 the allotment determined under subsection (b).

3 (b) DETERMINATION OF RESERVATIONS; AMOUNT OF
4 ALLOTMENTS; AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5 (1) RESERVATIONS FROM APPROPRIATIONS.—

6 From the total amount made available to carry out
7 this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall re-
8 serve—

9 (A) 3 percent for an independent evalua-
10 tion of the activities carried out under this Act,
11 as specified in section 8;

12 (B) not more than 3 percent for Federal
13 administrative costs;

14 (C) not more than 2 percent of the funds
15 appropriated for any fiscal year for payments to
16 Indian tribes or tribal organizations with an ap-
17 proved application under this section;

18 (D) not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 percent of the
19 funds appropriated for any fiscal year for pay-
20 ments to territories and possessions with an ap-
21 proved application under this section; and

22 (E) 2 percent for training and technical
23 assistance for States.

24 (2) STATE ALLOTMENTS FOR EARLY CHILD-
25 HOOD HOME VISITATION.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with
2 subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall allot
3 among each of the eligible States the total
4 amount made available to carry out this section
5 for any fiscal year and not reserved under para-
6 graph (1), to carry out early childhood home
7 visitation in accordance with this section.

8 (B) DETERMINATION OF STATE ALLOT-
9 MENTS.—The Secretary shall allot the amount
10 made available under subparagraph (A) for a
11 fiscal year among the eligible States in propor-
12 tion to the number of children, aged from birth
13 to 5 years, who reside within the State, com-
14 pared to the number of such individuals who re-
15 side in all such States for that fiscal year.

16 (3) PAYMENTS TO TRIBES AND TERRITORIES.—

17 (A) Out of the funds reserved under para-
18 graph (1)(A), the Secretary shall provide funds
19 to each Indian tribe or tribal organization with
20 an approved application under this section in
21 accordance with the respective needs described
22 in that application.

23 (B) Out of the funds reserved under para-
24 graph (1)(B), the Secretary shall provide funds
25 to each territory or possession with an approved

1 application under this section in accordance
2 with the respective needs described in that ap-
3 plication.

4 (4) APPLICATIONS OF INDIAN TRIBES, TRIBAL
5 ORGANIZATIONS, TERRITORIES, OR POSSESSIONS.—

6 (A) Subject to subparagraph (B) the Sec-
7 retary shall approve an application of an Indian
8 tribe, tribal organization, territory, or posses-
9 sion based on the quality of the application.

10 (B) The Secretary may exempt an applica-
11 tion submitted by an Indian tribe, tribal organi-
12 zation, territory, or possession from any re-
13 quirement of this section that the secretary de-
14 termines would be inappropriate to apply taking
15 into account the resources, needs, and other cir-
16 cumstances of the indian tribe, tribal organiza-
17 tion territory, or possession with the exception
18 of the provision of quality early childhood home
19 visitation as outlined in section (5)(f)(1), re-
20 porting requirements detailed in paragraphs (1)
21 and (3) of section 5(h), and participation in the
22 independent evaluation outlined in section 9.

23 (5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

24 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out

1 this section \$400,000,000 for the period of fiscal
2 years 2008 through 2010.

3 (c) GRANT APPLICATIONS.—A State, Indian tribe,
4 tribal organization, territory, or possession that desires to
5 receive a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
6 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
7 containing such information as the Secretary may require.
8 The application shall contain the following information:

9 (1) An assurance that the Governor of the
10 State has designated a lead State agency, such as
11 the State educational agency or the State health and
12 human services agency, to carry out the activities
13 under this section.

14 (2) An assurance that the State will reserve 3
15 percent of such grant for evaluation and will partici-
16 pate in the independent evaluation under section 9.

17 (3) An assurance that the State will reserve 10
18 percent of the grant funds for training and technical
19 assistance of staff of programs of early childhood
20 home visitation.

21 (4) An assurance that the State will authorize
22 child care resource and referral agencies to refer
23 parents seeking home visitation services.

24 (5) The results of a statewide needs assessment
25 that describes—

1 (A) the quality and capacity of existing
2 programs of early childhood home visitation in
3 the State;

4 (B) the number and types of eligible fami-
5 lies who are receiving services under such pro-
6 grams; and

7 (C) the gaps in early childhood home visi-
8 tation in the State.

9 (6) A State plan containing the following:

10 (A) A description of the State's strategy to
11 establish or expand quality programs of early
12 childhood home visitation to serve all eligible
13 families in the State.

14 (B) A description of the quality programs
15 of early childhood home visitation that will be
16 supported by a grant under this section.

17 (C) A description of how the proposed pro-
18 gram of early childhood home visitation will
19 promote positive parenting skills and children's
20 early learning and development.

21 (D) A description of how the proposed pro-
22 gram of early childhood home visitation will in-
23 corporate the authorized activities described in
24 subsection (f).

1 (E) How the lead State agency will build
2 on and promote coordination among existing
3 programs of early childhood home visitation in
4 an effort to promote an array of home visitation
5 that ensures more eligible families are being
6 served and are getting the most appropriate
7 services to meet their needs.

8 (F) How the lead State agency will pro-
9 mote collaboration among a broad range of
10 child-serving programs, including—

11 (i) early childhood home visitation
12 programs;

13 (ii) early childhood care and education
14 programs;

15 (iii) early childhood intervention pro-
16 grams;

17 (iv) child abuse prevention and treat-
18 ment programs;

19 (v) Medicaid and State Children’s
20 Health Insurance programs;

21 (vi) nutrition assistance programs;

22 (vii) substance abuse and mental
23 health prevention and treatment programs;

24 (viii) domestic and family violence
25 prevention programs;

1 (ix) child support enforcement pro-
2 grams;

3 (x) workforce development programs;

4 (xi) the State Temporary Assistance
5 to Needy Families program; and

6 (xii) other child-serving programs in
7 the State in order to facilitate the coordi-
8 nated delivery of services for eligible fami-
9 lies.

10 (G) How the lead State agency will provide
11 training and technical assistance to staff of pro-
12 grams of early childhood home visitation in-
13 volved in activities under this section to more
14 effectively meet the needs of the eligible families
15 served, with sensitivity to cultural variations in
16 parenting norms and attitudes toward formal
17 support services.

18 (H) How the lead State agency will evalu-
19 ate the activities supported under this section in
20 order to assess outcomes related to the en-
21 hancement of—

22 (i) parent knowledge of early learning
23 and development;

1 (ii) child health, cognitive, language,
2 social-emotional, and physical development
3 indicators;

4 (iii) child maltreatment indicators for
5 child abuse and neglect prevention;

6 (iv) school readiness indicators; and

7 (v) links to community services.

8 (I) A description of how the lead State
9 agency will ensure that the home visitation pro-
10 grams will conduct outreach activities to target
11 both mothers and fathers, and increase father
12 involvement where appropriate.

13 (J) A description of how the lead State
14 agency will increase home visitation programs
15 participation rates for fathers.

16 (K) A description of how the lead State
17 agency will ensure that services are made avail-
18 able under the program to grandparents, other
19 relatives or foster parents, of a child from birth
20 through age 5 who serve as the primary care-
21 giver of the child.

22 (L) Such other information as the Sec-
23 retary may require.

24 (d) APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall approve
2 an application under this section based on the rec-
3 ommendations of a peer review panel, as described
4 in paragraph (2). The panel shall recommend appli-
5 cants to the Secretary based on the quality of their
6 applications. In addition to ensuring that the appli-
7 cation is complete, the panel shall consider the qual-
8 ity of the needs assessment, described in subsection
9 (c)(5); the quality of the programs to be funded by
10 the grant, described in subsection (c)(6)(B) and the
11 quality of the plan for collaboration described in
12 subsections (c)(6)(E) and (c)(6)(F). In assessing the
13 quality of the programs to be funded, the panel shall
14 give consideration to recommending some applicants
15 that will fund programs that incorporate comparison
16 or control groups in their service delivery model, rec-
17 ognizing that not all quality programs will be able
18 to do so but that having some such programs would
19 contribute to the evaluations required in subsection
20 (c)(6)(H) and section 9.

21 (2) PEER REVIEW PANEL.—The peer review
22 panel shall include not less than—

23 (A) 3 individuals who are experts in the
24 field of home visitation;

1 (B) 2 individuals who are experts in early
2 childhood development;

3 (C) 1 individual with expertise imple-
4 menting a statewide program of early childhood
5 home visitation;

6 (D) 1 individual who is a board certified
7 pediatrician or a developmental pediatrician;
8 and

9 (E) 1 individual with experience in admin-
10 istering public or private (including community-
11 based) child maltreatment prevention programs.

12 (e) DURATION OF GRANTS.—Grants made under this
13 section shall be for a period of no more than 3 years.

14 (f) STATE USES OF FUNDS.—Each State that re-
15 ceives a grant under this section shall—

16 (1) provide to as many eligible families in the
17 State as practicable, voluntary early childhood home
18 visitation, on not less frequently than a monthly
19 basis with greater frequency of services for those eli-
20 gible families identified with additional needs,
21 through the implementation of quality programs of
22 early childhood home visitation that—

23 (A) adopts a clear, consistent model that is
24 grounded in empirically-based knowledge re-

1 lated to home visiting and linked to program-
2 determined outcomes;

3 (B) employs well-trained and competent
4 staff, as demonstrated by education or training,
5 and the provision of ongoing and specific train-
6 ing on the model being delivered;

7 (C) maintains high quality supervision to
8 establish home visitor competencies;

9 (D) shows strong organizational capacity
10 to implement the program involved;

11 (E) establishes appropriate linkages and
12 referral networks to other community resources
13 and supports;

14 (F) monitors fidelity of program implemen-
15 tation to assure that services are delivered ac-
16 cording to the specified model;

17 (G) establishes procedures to ensure par-
18 ticipation of fathers, where safe and appro-
19 priate;

20 (H) are research-based, that provides par-
21 ents with—

22 (i) knowledge of age appropriate child
23 development in cognitive, language, social-
24 emotional, and motor domains;

- 1 (ii) knowledge of realistic expectations
2 of age-appropriate child behaviors;
- 3 (iii) knowledge of health and wellness
4 issues for children and parents;
- 5 (iv) modeling, consulting, and coach-
6 ing on parenting practices;
- 7 (v) skills to interact with their child to
8 enhance age-appropriate development;
- 9 (vi) skills to recognize and seek help
10 for issues related to health, developmental
11 delays, and social, emotional, and behav-
12 ioral skills;
- 13 (vii) activities designed to help par-
14 ents become full partners in the education
15 of their children; and
- 16 (viii) relevant information, consistent
17 with State child welfare agency training,
18 concerning child welfare and protective
19 services resources if appropriate;
- 20 (I) ascertains what health and develop-
21 mental services the family receives and work
22 with these providers to eliminate gaps in service
23 by offering annual health, vision, hearing, and
24 developmental screening for children from birth

1 to entry into kindergarten, when not otherwise
2 provided;

3 (J) provides referrals for eligible families,
4 as needed, to additional resources available in
5 the community, such as center-based early edu-
6 cation programs, child care services, health or
7 mental health services, family literacy pro-
8 grams, employment agencies, social services, fa-
9 therhood programs, and child care resource and
10 referral agencies; and

11 (K) offers group meetings (at program dis-
12 cretion) for eligible families that—

13 (i) further enhance the information,
14 activities, and skill-building addressed dur-
15 ing home visitation; and

16 (ii) offer opportunities for parents to
17 meet with and support each other.

18 (2) reserve 10 percent of the grant funds to
19 provide training and technical assistance, directly or
20 through contract, to early childhood home visitation
21 and early childhood care and education staff relating
22 to—

23 (A) effective methods of implementing par-
24 ent education, conducting home visiting, and
25 promoting quality early childhood development;

1 (B) the relationship of health and well-
2 being of pregnant women to prenatal and early
3 childhood development;

4 (C) early childhood development with re-
5 spect to children from birth until entry into kin-
6 dergarten;

7 (D) methods to help parents promote
8 emergent literacy in their children from birth
9 until entry into kindergarten;

10 (E) health, vision, hearing, and develop-
11 mental screenings;

12 (F) strategies for helping eligible families
13 with special needs or those eligible families cop-
14 ing with crisis;

15 (G) recruiting, supervising, and retaining
16 qualified staff;

17 (H) increasing services for underserved
18 populations;

19 (I) methods to help parents effectively re-
20 spond to their children's needs and behaviors;

21 (J) implementation of ongoing program
22 quality improvement and evaluation of activities
23 and outcomes;

24 (K) relevant issues related to child welfare
25 and protective services, with information pro-

1 vided being consistent with state child welfare
2 agency training;

3 (L) effective methods of successfully en-
4 gaging fathers in programs for parents; and

5 (M) the relationship of father involvement
6 to the health and well-being of pregnant women
7 and to prenatal and early childhood develop-
8 ment;

9 (3) ensure collaboration among child-serving
10 programs through an existing or created State-level
11 early childhood coordinating body that meets regu-
12 larly to address policy and implementation issues
13 that will improve the coordination of a range of serv-
14 ices for children and families, especially those receiv-
15 ing home visitation services, and such coordinating
16 body shall include—

17 (A) representatives from quality programs
18 of early childhood home visitation;

19 (B) representatives from early childhood
20 education and care programs, including the
21 state agency responsible for administering the
22 Child Care and Development Block Grant, the
23 State Head Start collaboration director, the
24 State child care resource and referral office,

1 and representatives from State Head Start As-
2 sociations;

3 (C) representatives of early intervention
4 programs, such as the State official responsible
5 for carrying out activities under part C of the
6 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20
7 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.) and the State official re-
8 sponsible for carrying out activities under sec-
9 tion 619 of the Individuals with Disabilities
10 Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419);

11 (D) representatives from child welfare pro-
12 grams, including the State agency responsible
13 for carrying out the plan under section 106 of
14 the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
15 (42 U.S.C. 5106 et seq.) and the State agency
16 responsible for administering titles IV–B and
17 IV–E of the Social Security Act;

18 (E) representatives from children’s health
19 insurance programs, including the State agency
20 administering titles XIX and XXI of the Social
21 Security Act;

22 (F) representatives from nutrition pro-
23 grams, such as Food Stamps (7 U.S.C. 2011 et
24 seq.), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program
25 for Women Infants and Children (42 U.S.C.

1 1786) and the Child and Adult Care Food Pro-
2 gram (42 U.S.C. 1766);

3 (G) representatives from substance abuse
4 and mental health prevention and treatment
5 programs, including the State agency respon-
6 sible for administering the Substance Abuse
7 Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (42
8 U.S.C. 300x-21 et seq.) and the State agency
9 responsible for administering the Mental Health
10 Services Block Grant (42 U.S.C. 300x-1 et
11 seq.);

12 (H) representatives from domestic and
13 family violence prevention programs;

14 (I) representatives from the State child
15 support enforcement program responsible for
16 administering title IV-D of the Social Security
17 Act;

18 (J) representatives from workforce develop-
19 ment programs, including the State-level and
20 local Workforce Investment Boards (20 U.S.C.
21 9201 et seq.);

22 (K) representatives from the State Tem-
23 porary Assistance for Needy Families program
24 administering title IV-A of the Social Security
25 Act;

1 (L) representatives of other child-serving
2 programs, including the State agency respon-
3 sible for administering title XX of the Social
4 Security Act; and

5 (M) a board certified pediatrician or a de-
6 velopmental pediatrician; and

7 (4) not expend more than 5 percent of the
8 amount of grant funds received under this section
9 for the administration of the grant, including plan-
10 ning, administration, and annual reporting.

11 (g) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—A State is entitled
12 to receive its full allotment of funds under this section for
13 any fiscal year if the Secretary finds that the aggregate
14 expenditures within the State for quality programs of
15 early childhood home visitation for the fiscal year pre-
16 ceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made
17 was not less than 100 percent of such aggregate expendi-
18 tures for the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year
19 for which the determination is made.

20 (h) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Each State that
21 receives a grant under this section shall submit an annual
22 report to the Secretary regarding the State’s progress in
23 addressing the purposes of this Act. Such report shall in-
24 clude, at a minimum, a description of—

1 (1) actual service delivery provided under the
2 grant including—

3 (A) program characteristics including de-
4 scriptive information on the service model used
5 and actual program performance;

6 (B) provider characteristics including staff
7 qualifications, work experience, and demo-
8 graphic characteristics; and

9 (C) recipient characteristics including
10 number, demographic characteristics, and fam-
11 ily retention;

12 (2) recipient outcomes that are consistent with
13 program goals including, where appropriate given
14 the program being evaluated—

15 (A) parent knowledge of early learning and
16 development;

17 (B) child health cognitive, language, social-
18 emotional, and physical developmental indica-
19 tors;

20 (C) child maltreatment indicators, for child
21 abuse and neglect prevention;

22 (D) school readiness indicators; and

23 (E) links to community services;

1 (3) the research-based instruction, materials,
2 and activities being used in the activities funded
3 under the grant;

4 (4) the effectiveness of the training and ongoing
5 professional development provided—

6 (A) to staff supported under the grant;

7 and

8 (B) to the broader early childhood commu-
9 nity;

10 (5) beginning at the end of the second year of
11 the grant, the results of evaluations described in
12 subsection (c)(6)(H); and

13 (6) the annual program implementation costs,
14 including the cost for each family served under the
15 program.

16 **SEC. 5. STRENGTHENING EARLY HEAD START HOME VISI-**
17 **TATION.**

18 Section 645A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
19 9840a) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (b)—

21 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “provide
22 services to parents to support their role as par-
23 ents” and inserting “provide additional services
24 to parents to support their role as parents (in-
25 cluding training in parenting skills, basic child

1 development, and sensitivity to cultural vari-
2 ations in parenting norms and attitudes toward
3 formal supports”;

4 (B) in paragraph (5)—

5 (i) by inserting “(including home-
6 based services)” after “with services”; and

7 (ii) by inserting “, and family support
8 services” after “health services”;

9 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (7), (8),
10 and (9) as paragraphs (9), (10), and (11), re-
11 spectively; and

12 (D) by inserting after paragraph (6) the
13 following:

14 “(7) develop and implement a systematic proce-
15 dure for transitioning children and parents from an
16 Early Head Start program into a Head Start pro-
17 gram or another local early childhood education pro-
18 gram;

19 “(8) establish channels of communication be-
20 tween staff of Early Head Start programs and staff
21 of Head Start programs or other local early child-
22 hood education programs, to facilitate the coordina-
23 tion of programs;”;

24 (2) in subsection (g)(2)(B), by striking clause
25 (iv) and inserting the following:

1 “(iv) providing professional develop-
2 ment and personnel enhancement activi-
3 ties, including the provision of funds to re-
4 cipients of grants under subsection (a), re-
5 lating to effective methods of implementing
6 parent education, conducting home vis-
7 iting, and promoting quality early child-
8 hood development.”; and

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

10 “(h) STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT.—

11 “(1) HOME VISITOR STAFF.—

12 “(A) STANDARDS.—In order to further en-
13 hance the quality of home visiting services pro-
14 vided to families of children participating in
15 home-based, center-based, or combination pro-
16 gram options under this subchapter, the Sec-
17 retary shall establish standards for training,
18 qualifications, and the conduct of home visits
19 for home visitor staff in Early Head Start pro-
20 grams.

21 “(B) CONTENTS.—The standards for
22 training, qualifications, and the conduct of
23 home visits shall include content related to—

24 “(i) structured child-focused home vis-
25 iting that promotes parents’ ability to sup-

1 port the child’s cognitive, social, emotional,
2 and physical development;

3 “(ii) effective strengths-based parent
4 education, including methods to encourage
5 parents as their child’s first teachers;

6 “(iii) early childhood development
7 with respect to children from birth through
8 age 3;

9 “(iv) methods to help parents promote
10 emergent literacy in their children from
11 birth through age 3;

12 “(v) ascertaining what health and de-
13 velopmental services the family receives
14 and working with these providers to elimi-
15 nate gaps in service by offering annual
16 health, vision, hearing, and developmental
17 screening for children from birth to entry
18 into kindergarten, when needed;

19 “(vi) strategies for helping families
20 coping with crisis; and

21 “(vii) the relationship of health and
22 well-being of pregnant women to prenatal
23 and early child development.”.

1 **SEC. 6. TARGETED GRANTS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME**
2 **VISITATION FOR FAMILIES WITH ENGLISH**
3 **LANGUAGE LEARNERS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
5 with the Secretary of Education, shall make grants, on
6 a competitive basis, to eligible applicants to enable such
7 applicants to support and expand local efforts to deliver
8 services under quality programs of early childhood home
9 visitation to eligible families with English language learn-
10 ers.

11 (b) ELIGIBLE APPLICANT.—In this section, the term
12 “eligible applicant” means—

13 (1) 1 or more local educational agencies (as de-
14 fined in section 9101 of the Elementary and Sec-
15 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801));
16 and

17 (2) 1 or more public or private community-
18 based organizations or agencies that serve eligible
19 families and are capable of establishing and imple-
20 menting programs of early childhood home visita-
21 tion.

22 (c) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible applicant that de-
23 sires to receive a grant under this section shall submit an
24 application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner,
25 and containing such information as the Secretary may re-
26 quire. The application shall include a description of—

1 (1) the results of a communitywide needs as-
2 sessment that describes—

3 (A) community demographics dem-
4 onstrating the need for outreach and services to
5 eligible families with English language learners;

6 (B) the quality and capacity of existing
7 programs of early childhood home visitation for
8 eligible families with English language learners
9 in the community;

10 (C) the gaps in programs of early child-
11 hood home visitation for eligible families with
12 English language learners in the community;
13 and

14 (D) the type of program of early childhood
15 home visitation necessary to address the gaps
16 identified;

17 (2) the program of early childhood home visita-
18 tion that will be supported by the grant under this
19 section;

20 (3) how the proposed program of early child-
21 hood home visitation will promote positive parenting
22 skills and children’s early learning and development;

23 (4) how the proposed program of early child-
24 hood home visitation will incorporate the authorized
25 activities described in subsection (f);

1 (5) how services provided through a grant
2 under this section will use materials that are geared
3 toward eligible families with English language learn-
4 ers;

5 (6) how the activities under this section will
6 build on and promote coordination among existing
7 programs of early childhood home visitation, if such
8 programs exist in the community, in an effort to
9 promote an array of home visitation that ensures
10 more eligible families with English language learners
11 are being served and are getting the most appro-
12 priate services to meet their needs;

13 (7) how the program will ensure that—

14 (A) eligible families with English language
15 learners are linked to schools; and

16 (B) the activities under this section will
17 support the preparation of children for school;

18 (8) how channels of communication will be es-
19 tablished between staff of programs of early child-
20 hood home visitation and staff of other early child-
21 hood education programs, such as Head Start pro-
22 grams carried out under the Head Start Act (42
23 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) and Early Head Start pro-
24 grams carried out under section 645A of such Act,
25 preschool programs, and child care programs, to fa-

1 cilitate the coordination of services for eligible fami-
2 lies with English language learners;

3 (9) how eligible families with English language
4 learners will be recruited and retained to receive
5 services under this section;

6 (10) how training and technical assistance will
7 help the staff of programs of early childhood home
8 visitation involved in activities under this section to
9 more effectively serve eligible families with English
10 language learners;

11 (11) how the eligible applicant will evaluate the
12 activities supported under this section in order to
13 demonstrate outcomes related to the—

14 (A) increase in number of eligible families
15 with English language learners served by pro-
16 grams of early childhood home visitation;

17 (B) enhancement of participating parents'
18 parental knowledge of early learning and devel-
19 opment;

20 (C) enhancement of positive parenting
21 practices related to early learning and develop-
22 ment; and

23 (D) enhancement of children's cognitive,
24 language, social-emotional, and physical devel-
25 opment;

1 (12) how the proposed program will conduct
2 outreach activities to target both mothers and fa-
3 thers and increase father involvement where safe
4 and appropriate; and

5 (13) such other information as the Secretary
6 may require.

7 (d) APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall select
9 applicants for funding under this section based on
10 the quality of the applications and the recommenda-
11 tions of a peer review panel, as described in para-
12 graph (2).

13 (2) PEER REVIEW PANEL.—The peer review
14 panel shall include not less than—

15 (A) 2 individuals who are experts in the
16 field of home visitation;

17 (B) 2 individuals who are experts in early
18 childhood development;

19 (C) 2 individuals who are experts in serv-
20 ing eligible families with English language
21 learners;

22 (D) 1 individual who is a board certified
23 pediatrician or a developmental pediatrician;
24 and

1 (E) 1 individual with expertise in admin-
2 istering public or private (including community-
3 based) child maltreatment prevention programs.

4 (e) DURATION OF GRANTS.—Grants made under this
5 section shall be for a period of no more than 3 years.

6 (f) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Each eligible appli-
7 cant that receives a grant under this section shall carry
8 out the following activities:

9 (1) Providing to as many eligible families with
10 English language learners as practicable, voluntary
11 early childhood home visitation, on not less fre-
12 quently than a monthly basis, through the imple-
13 mentation of quality programs of early childhood
14 home visitation that are research-based that provide
15 parents with—

16 (A) knowledge of age appropriate child de-
17 velopment in cognitive, language, social-emo-
18 tional, and motor domains;

19 (B) knowledge of realistic expectations of
20 age-appropriate child behaviors;

21 (C) knowledge of health and wellness
22 issues for children and parents;

23 (D) modeling, consulting, and coaching on
24 parenting practices;

1 (E) skills to interact with their child to en-
2 hance age-appropriate development;

3 (F) skills to recognize and seek help for
4 issues related to health, developmental delays,
5 and social, emotional, and behavioral skills; and

6 (G) activities designed to help parents be-
7 come full partners in the education of their chil-
8 dren.

9 (2) Ascertaining what health and developmental
10 services the family receives and working with these
11 providers to eliminate gaps in service by offering an-
12 nual health, vision, hearing, and developmental
13 screening for children from birth to entry into kin-
14 dergarten, when not otherwise provided.

15 (3) Providing referrals for participating eligible
16 families with English language learners, as needed,
17 to additional resources available in the community,
18 such as center-based early education programs, child
19 care services, health or mental health services, fam-
20 ily literacy programs, employment agencies, social
21 services, and child care resource and referral agen-
22 cies.

23 (4) Offering group meetings (at program dis-
24 cretion), on not less frequently than a monthly basis,

1 for eligible families with English language learners
2 that—

3 (A) further enhance the information, ac-
4 tivities, and skill-building addressed during
5 home visitation;

6 (B) offer opportunities for parents to meet
7 with and support each other; and

8 (C) address challenges facing eligi-
9 ble families with English language learners.

10 (5) Providing training and technical assistance
11 to early childhood home visitation and early child-
12 hood care and education staff relating to—

13 (A) effective service to eligible families
14 with English language learners, including skills
15 to address challenges facing English language
16 learners;

17 (B) effective methods of implementing par-
18 ent education, conducting home visiting, and
19 promoting quality early childhood development,
20 with sensitivity to cultural variations in par-
21 enting norms and attitudes toward formal sup-
22 port services;

23 (C) the relationship of health and well-
24 being of pregnant women to prenatal and early
25 child development;

1 (D) early childhood development with re-
2 spect to children from birth until entry into kin-
3 dergarten;

4 (E) methods to help parents promote
5 emergent literacy in their children from birth
6 until entry into kindergarten;

7 (F) implementing strategies for helping eli-
8 gible families with English language learners
9 coping with a crisis;

10 (G) recruiting, supervising, and retaining
11 qualified staff;

12 (H) increasing services for underserved eli-
13 gible families with English language learners;

14 (I) methods to help parents effectively re-
15 spond to their children's needs and behaviors;

16 (J) implementation of ongoing program
17 quality improvement and evaluation of activities
18 and outcomes; and

19 (K) the relationship of father involvement
20 to the health and well-being of pregnant women
21 and to prenatal and early childhood develop-
22 ment.

23 (6) Coordinating existing programs of early
24 childhood home visitation in order to effectively and

1 efficiently meet the needs of more eligible families
2 with English language learners.

3 (g) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Each applicant
4 that receives a grant under this section to carry out a pro-
5 gram shall submit an annual report to the Secretary re-
6 garding the progress of such program in addressing the
7 purposes of this Act. Such report shall include, at a min-
8 imum, a description of—

9 (1) actual service delivery provided under the
10 grant including—

11 (A) program characteristics including de-
12 scriptive information on the service model used
13 and actual program performance;

14 (B) provider characteristics including staff
15 qualifications, work experience, and demo-
16 graphic characteristics;

17 (C) recipient characteristics including
18 number, demographic characteristics, and fam-
19 ily retention; and

20 (D) an estimate of annual program imple-
21 mentation costs;

22 (2) recipient outcomes that are consistent with
23 program goals including, where appropriate given
24 the program being evaluated—

25 (A) parental practices;

1 (B) child health and development indica-
2 tors;

3 (C) child maltreatment indicators;

4 (D) school readiness indicators; and

5 (E) links to community services;

6 (3) the research-based instruction, materials,
7 and activities being used in the activities funded
8 under the grant; and

9 (4) the effectiveness of the training and ongoing
10 professional development provided—

11 (A) to staff supported under the grant;
12 and

13 (B) to the broader early childhood commu-
14 nity.

15 (h) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Grant funds
16 provided under this section shall be used to supplement,
17 and not supplant, Federal and non-Federal funds available
18 for carrying out the activities described in this section.

19 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
20 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
21 \$50,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through
22 2010.

1 **SEC. 7. TARGETED GRANTS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME**
2 **VISITATION FOR MILITARY FAMILIES.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense, in con-
4 sultation with the Secretary of Education and the Sec-
5 retary of Health and Human Services, shall make grants,
6 on a competitive basis, to eligible applicants to enable such
7 applicants to support and expand efforts to deliver services
8 under quality programs of early childhood home visitation
9 to eligible families with a family member in the Armed
10 Forces.

11 (b) **ELIGIBLE APPLICANT.**—In this section, the term
12 “eligible applicant” means any of the following:

13 (1) A local educational agency that receives
14 payments under title VIII of the Elementary and
15 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7701
16 et seq.).

17 (2) A school of the defense dependents’ edu-
18 cation system under the Defense Dependents’ Edu-
19 cation Act of 1978 (20 U.S.C. 921 et seq.).

20 (3) A school established under section 2164 of
21 title 10, United States Code.

22 (4) A community-based organization serving
23 families with a family member in the Armed Forces.

24 (c) **APPLICATIONS.**—An eligible applicant that de-
25 sires to receive a grant under this section shall submit an
26 application to the Secretary of Defense at such time, in

1 such manner, and containing such information as the Sec-
2 retary of Defense may require. The application shall in-
3 clude a description of—

4 (1) the results of a communitywide needs as-
5 sessment that describes—

6 (A) community demographics dem-
7 onstrating the need for outreach and services to
8 eligible families with a family member in the
9 Armed Forces;

10 (B) the quality and capacity of existing
11 programs of early childhood home visitation for
12 eligible families with a family member in the
13 Armed Forces;

14 (C) the gaps in programs of early child-
15 hood home visitation for eligible families with a
16 family member in the Armed Forces; and

17 (D) the type of program of early childhood
18 home visitation necessary to address the gaps
19 identified;

20 (2) the program of early childhood home visita-
21 tion that will be supported by the grant under this
22 section;

23 (3) how the proposed program of early child-
24 hood home visitation will promote positive parenting
25 skills and children’s early learning and development;

1 (4) how the proposed program of early child-
2 hood home visitation will incorporate the authorized
3 activities described in subsection (f);

4 (5) how services provided through a grant
5 under this section will use materials that are geared
6 toward eligible families with a family member in the
7 Armed Forces;

8 (6) how the activities under this section will
9 build on and promote coordination with existing pro-
10 grams of early childhood home visitation, if such
11 programs exist in the community, in an effort to
12 promote an array of home visitation that ensures
13 more eligible families with a family member in the
14 Armed Forces are being served and are getting the
15 most appropriate services to meet their needs;

16 (7) how the program will ensure that—

17 (A) eligible families with a family member
18 in the Armed Forces are linked to schools; and

19 (B) the activities under this section will
20 support the preparation of children for school;

21 (8) how channels of communication will be es-
22 tablished between staff of programs of early child-
23 hood home visitation and staff of other early child-
24 hood education programs, such as Head Start pro-
25 grams carried out under the Head Start Act (42

1 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) and Early Head Start pro-
2 grams carried out under section 645A of such Act,
3 preschool programs, family support programs, and
4 child care programs, to facilitate the coordination of
5 services for eligible families with a family member in
6 the Armed Forces;

7 (9) how eligible families with a family member
8 in the Armed Forces will be recruited and retained
9 to receive services under this section;

10 (10) how training and technical assistance will
11 help staff of programs of early childhood home visi-
12 tation involved in activities under this section to
13 more effectively serve eligible families with a family
14 member in the Armed Forces;

15 (11) how the eligible applicant will evaluate the
16 activities supported under this section in order to
17 demonstrate outcomes related to the—

18 (A) increase in number of eligible families
19 with a family member in the Armed Forces
20 served by programs of early childhood home vis-
21 itation;

22 (B) enhancement of participating parents'
23 knowledge of early learning and development;

1 (C) enhancement of positive parenting
2 practices related to early learning and develop-
3 ment; and

4 (D) enhancement of children’s cognitive,
5 language, social-emotional, and physical devel-
6 opment;

7 (12) how the proposed program will conduct
8 outreach activities to target both mothers and fa-
9 thers and increase father involvement where safe
10 and appropriate; and

11 (13) such other information as the Secretary of
12 Defense may require.

13 (d) APPROVAL OF LOCAL APPLICATIONS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense
15 shall select applicants for funding under this section
16 based on the quality of the applications and the rec-
17 ommendations of a peer review panel, as described
18 in paragraph (2).

19 (2) PEER REVIEW PANEL.—The peer review
20 panel shall include not less than—

21 (A) 2 individuals who are experts in the
22 field of home visitation;

23 (B) 2 individuals who are experts in early
24 childhood development;

1 (C) 2 individuals who are experts in family
2 support for military families;

3 (D) 1 individual who is a board certified
4 pediatrician or developmental pediatrician; and

5 (E) 1 individual with expertise in admin-
6 istering public or private (including community-
7 based) child maltreatment prevention programs.

8 (e) DURATION OF GRANTS.—Grants made under this
9 section shall be for a period of no more than 3 years.

10 (f) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Each eligible appli-
11 cant that receives a grant under this section shall carry
12 out the following activities:

13 (1) Providing to as many eligible families with
14 a family member in the Armed Forces as prac-
15 ticable, voluntary early childhood home visitation, on
16 not less frequently than a monthly basis, through
17 the implementation of quality programs of early
18 childhood home visitation that are research-based
19 and that provide parents with—

20 (A) knowledge of age appropriate child de-
21 velopment in cognitive, language, social-emo-
22 tional, and motor domains;

23 (B) knowledge of realistic expectations of
24 age-appropriate child behaviors;

1 (C) knowledge of health and wellness
2 issues for children and parents;

3 (D) modeling, consulting, and coaching on
4 parenting practices;

5 (E) skills to interact with their child to en-
6 hance age-appropriate development;

7 (F) skills to recognize and seek help for
8 issues related to health, developmental delays,
9 and social, emotional, and behavioral skills; and

10 (G) activities designed to help parents be-
11 come full partners in the education of their chil-
12 dren.

13 (2) Ascertaining what health and developmental
14 services the family receives and working with these
15 providers to eliminate gaps in service by offering an-
16 nual health, vision, hearing, and developmental
17 screening for children from birth to entry into kin-
18 dergarten, when not otherwise provided.

19 (3) Providing referrals for participating eligible
20 families with a family member in the Armed Forces,
21 as needed, to additional resources available in the
22 community, such as center-based early education
23 programs, child care services, health or mental
24 health services, family literacy programs, employ-

1 ment agencies, social services, and child care re-
2 source and referral agencies.

3 (4) Offering group meetings (at program dis-
4 cretion), on not less frequently than a monthly basis,
5 for eligible families with a family member in the
6 Armed Forces that—

7 (A) further enhance the information, ac-
8 tivities, and skill-building addressed during
9 home visitation;

10 (B) offer opportunities for parents to meet
11 with and support each other; and

12 (C) address challenges facing eligible fami-
13 lies with a family member in the Armed Forces.

14 (5) Providing training and technical assistance
15 to early childhood home visitation and early child-
16 hood care and education staff relating to—

17 (A) effective service to eligible families
18 with a family member in the Armed Forces;

19 (B) effective methods of implementing par-
20 ent education, conducting home visiting, and
21 promoting quality early childhood development,
22 with sensitivity to cultural variations in par-
23 enting norms and attitudes toward formal sup-
24 port services;

1 (C) the relationship of health and well-
2 being of pregnant women to prenatal and early
3 child development;

4 (D) early childhood development with re-
5 spect to children from birth until entry into kin-
6 dergarten;

7 (E) methods to help parents promote
8 emergent literacy in their children from birth
9 until entry into kindergarten;

10 (F) implementing strategies for helping eli-
11 gible families with a family member in the
12 Armed Forces coping with crisis;

13 (G) recruiting, supervising, and retaining
14 qualified staff;

15 (H) increasing services for underserved eli-
16 gible families with a family member in the
17 Armed Forces;

18 (I) methods to help parents effectively re-
19 spond to their children's needs and behaviors;

20 (J) implementation of ongoing program
21 quality improvement and evaluation of activities
22 and outcomes; and

23 (K) the relationship of father involvement
24 to the health and well-being of pregnant women

1 and to prenatal and early childhood develop-
2 ment.

3 (6) Coordinating existing programs of early
4 childhood home visitation in order to effectively and
5 efficiently meet the needs of more eligible families
6 with a family member in the Armed Forces.

7 (g) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Each applicant
8 that receives a grant under this section to carry out a pro-
9 gram shall submit an annual report to the Secretary re-
10 garding the progress of such program in addressing the
11 purposes of this Act. Such report shall include, at a min-
12 imum, a description of—

13 (1) actual service delivery provided under the
14 grant including—

15 (A) program characteristics including de-
16 scriptive information on the service model used
17 and actual program performance;

18 (B) provider characteristics including staff
19 qualifications, work experience, and demo-
20 graphic characteristics;

21 (C) recipient characteristics including
22 number, demographic characteristics, and fam-
23 ily retention; and

24 (D) an estimate of annual program imple-
25 mentation costs;

1 (2) recipient outcomes that are consistent with
2 program goals including, where appropriate given
3 the program being evaluated—

4 (A) parental practices;

5 (B) child health and development indica-
6 tors;

7 (C) child maltreatment indicators;

8 (D) school readiness indicators; and

9 (E) links to community services;

10 (3) the research-based instruction, materials,
11 and activities being used in the activities funded
12 under the grant; and

13 (4) the effectiveness of the training and ongoing
14 professional development provided—

15 (A) to staff supported under the grant;

16 and

17 (B) to the broader early childhood commu-
18 nity.

19 (h) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Grant funds
20 provided under this section shall be used to supplement,
21 and not supplant, Federal and non-Federal funds available
22 for carrying out the activities described in this section.

23 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
24 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section

1 \$50,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through
2 2010.

3 **SEC. 8. EVALUATION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—From funds reserved under sec-
5 tion 5(b)(1)(A), the Secretary shall conduct an inde-
6 pendent evaluation of the effectiveness of this Act.

7 (b) REPORTS.—

8 (1) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 2 years
9 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
10 retary shall submit an interim report on the evalua-
11 tion conducted pursuant to subsection (a) to the
12 Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
13 sions of the Senate and the Committee on Education
14 and Labor of the House of Representatives.

15 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 3 years
16 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
17 retary shall submit a final report on the evaluation
18 conducted pursuant to subsection (a) to the commit-
19 tees described in paragraph (1).

20 (c) CONTENTS.—The reports submitted under sub-
21 section (b) shall include information on the following:

22 (1) How the grant funds have expanded access
23 to early childhood home visitation including—

1 (A) demonstrating that programs funded
2 reflect the quality indicators outlined in section
3 5(f)(1); and

4 (B) documenting the service delivery indi-
5 cators, as outlined in section 5(h)(1), across all
6 recipients receiving grants with attention to the
7 number of families served and the level of serv-
8 ice received.

9 (2) How the States affect outcomes consistent
10 with program goals including, where appropriate
11 given the program being evaluated, parenting prac-
12 tices, child health and development, child maltreat-
13 ment, school readiness, and links to community serv-
14 ices.

15 (3) The effectiveness of early childhood home
16 visitation on different populations, including the ex-
17 tent to which variability exists in program ability to
18 improve outcomes across programs and populations,
19 such as families with English language learners and
20 families with a family member in the Armed Forces.

21 (4) Descriptions of the technical assistance and
22 training actually provided and the nature of the pop-
23 ulations receiving this assistance.

24 (5) The effectiveness of the training and tech-
25 nical assistance activities funded under this Act, in-

1 including the effects of training and technical assist-
2 ance activities on program performance and agency-
3 level collaboration.

4 (6) Recommendations on strengthening or
5 modifying this Act.

6 **SEC. 9. SUPPORTING NEW PARENTS THROUGH HOSPITAL**
7 **EDUCATION.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
9 Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Sec-
10 retary”) shall develop and implement a public information
11 and educational campaign to inform the public and new
12 parents about the importance of proper care for infants
13 and children under 5 years of age, including healthy par-
14 ent-child relationships, the demands and stress associated
15 with caring for infants, positive responses to infants’ chal-
16 lenging behaviors including awareness of their social, emo-
17 tional, and physical needs, awareness of the vulnerability
18 of young children to abusive practices, and the signs and
19 treatment of post-partum depression.

20 (b) ELEMENTS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The campaign developed
22 under subsection (a) shall include the following ele-
23 ments:

1 (A) The dissemination of educational and
2 informational materials in print, audio, video,
3 electronic, and other media.

4 (B) The use of public service announce-
5 ments and advertisements.

6 (C) The dissemination of effective child
7 abuse prevention practices and techniques, in-
8 cluding information about research-based home
9 visiting programs, respite care, crisis nurseries,
10 and parent support networks, to parents, care-
11 givers, maternity hospitals, children’s hospitals,
12 pediatricians, child care centers, organizations
13 providing prenatal and postnatal care, and or-
14 ganizations providing parenting education and
15 support services.

16 (D) Connection to existing parental in-
17 volvement programs.

18 (2) PREVENTION PRACTICES.—In carrying out
19 paragraph (1)(C) through the campaign under sub-
20 section (a), the Secretary shall ensure that every
21 hospital, military hospital, and birth center receiving
22 these materials requests that each maternity patient
23 and father of a newborn child, if available, partici-
24 pate in a single session parenting class, that is ap-
25 proved by the Secretary, on the vulnerabilities of

1 their infant to abusive practices, as well as the im-
2 portance of proper care for infants and young chil-
3 dren, and the symptoms of abusive head and other
4 injuries, and strategies for caring for infants' social,
5 emotional, and physical needs. After participating in
6 the class, the hospital or birth center shall request
7 that such patient or father sign a form stating that
8 they have participated or refused to participate in
9 the parenting class.

10 (3) EXISTING PROGRAMS.—The implementation
11 and execution of the public information and edu-
12 cational campaign under this section should seek col-
13 laboration with and referrals to existing parental in-
14 volvement programs that specialize in strengthening
15 children's cognitive skills, early literacy skills, social
16 or emotional and physical development and existing
17 prenatal and early childhood home visitation pro-
18 grams.

19 (4) EXISTING STATE REQUIREMENTS.—The im-
20 plementation and execution of the public information
21 and educational campaign under this section should
22 encourage the Secretary to work with pre-existing
23 State requirements to ensure that no unnecessary
24 burdens are placed on hospitals, military hospitals,
25 and birth centers receiving educational materials.

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
3 essary to carry out this section for fiscal years 2008
4 through 2010.

○