

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1528

To amend the Head Start Act to make quality improvements in Head Start programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 30, 1993

Mr. GOODLING (for himself, Ms. MOLINARI, Mr. McKEON, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. PETRI, Mr. GUNDERSON, and Mr. HOEKSTRA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Head Start Act to make quality improvements in Head Start programs, 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 “Head Start Quality
5 Improvement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FUNDS.**

7 Section 637(5)(B) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
8 9832(5)(B)) is amended by striking “25 percent” and in-
9 serting “30 percent”.

1 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 Section 639(c) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
3 9834(c)) is amended to read as follows:

4 “(c) The Secretary shall make available to carry out
5 the Head Start Transition Project Act, from the amount
6 appropriated under subsection (a), not less than
7 \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1993 through 1996.”.

8 **SEC. 4. MONITORING AND INCENTIVE GRANTS.**

9 Section 640(a)(2)(C) of the Head Start Act (42
10 U.S.C. 9835(a)(2)(C)) is amended to read as follows:

11 “(C) program improvement activities, in an
12 amount for each fiscal year that is not less than 3
13 percent of the sum appropriated under section 639
14 for such fiscal year, of which amount—

15 “(i) 75 percent shall be made available for
16 training and technical assistance activities that
17 are sufficient to meet the needs associated with
18 program expansion and to foster program and
19 management improvement activities as de-
20 scribed in section 648;

21 “(ii) 12.5 percent shall be made available
22 to provide funds for carrying out reviews and
23 interim evaluations under section 641(c)(1), au-
24 dits and examinations under section 647(b),
25 and evaluations under section 651, which funds
26 shall be used to supplement, and not supplant,

1 any Federal funds that would otherwise have
2 been available to carry out such reviews, audits,
3 examinations, and evaluations; and

4 “(iii) 12.5 percent shall be made available
5 to make grants to Head Start agencies that ex-
6 ceed the outcome measures described in section
7 651(b)(2), for carrying out the quality improve-
8 ment activities described in paragraph (3)(A).”.

9 **SEC. 5. HEAD START AGENCIES.**

10 (a) GRANTS.—Section 641(a) of the Head Start Act
11 (42 U.S.C. 9836(a)) is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
13 subparagraphs (A) and (B);

14 (2) by inserting “(1)” after “(a)”; and

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

16 “(2) The Secretary may make grants to designated
17 Head Start agencies to carry out Head Start programs
18 under this Act.

19 “(3) The first grant awarded to an agency serving
20 a community after the date of enactment of this para-
21 graph, and first designation of such agency as a Head
22 Start agency after such date, shall be for a period of 7
23 years. Subsequent grants and designations shall be made
24 for periods of not less than 7 years.

1 “(4) To be eligible to be designated as a Head Start
2 agency and receive such a grant, an agency shall submit
3 an application to the Secretary at such time, in such man-
4 ner, and containing such information as the Secretary may
5 require.”.

6 (b) REVIEWS AND INTERIM EVALUATIONS.—Section
7 641(c) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836(c)) is
8 amended—

9 (1) by striking paragraph (1);

10 (2) in paragraph (2)—

11 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

12 (i) by striking “and shall” and insert-
13 ing “and shall conduct an interim evalua-
14 tion including a site visit at the site of
15 such agency at least once each year, in
16 order to”; and

17 (ii) by inserting “, including outcome
18 measures described in section 651(b)(2),”
19 after “requirements”; and

20 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

21 (i) by striking “The” and inserting
22 “In addition to conducting the reviews and
23 interim evaluations required under sub-
24 paragraphs (A) and (B), the”; and

1 (ii) by striking “followup reviews” and
2 inserting “followup reviews and interim
3 evaluations”;

4 (3) in paragraph (3)—

5 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
6 (A), by striking “review” and inserting “review
7 or interim evaluation”;

8 (B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “re-
9 view” and inserting “review or interim evalua-
10 tion”; and

11 (C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “such
12 review at the site of such agency” and inserting
13 “such a site visit, conducted as part of a review
14 or interim evaluation”;

15 (4) in paragraph (4)—

16 (A) by striking “(4)” and inserting
17 “(4)(A)”;

18 (B) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated
19 by subparagraph (A) of this paragraph) by
20 striking “review” and inserting “review or in-
21 terim evaluation”; and

22 (C) add at the end the following:

23 “(B) If, in carrying out such a review or interim eval-
24 uation, the Secretary identifies program deficits in the
25 programs provided by the agency, the Secretary—

1 “(i) may require the agency to take corrective
2 action to correct the program deficits;

3 “(ii) shall provide technical assistance under
4 section 648(a) for the 1-year period beginning on
5 the date of the review or interim evaluation; and

6 “(iii) may conduct a full review of the program.

7 “(C)(i) In addition to any other authority of the Sec-
8 retary to revoke the designation of an agency as a Head
9 Start agency, if the Secretary determines that the agency
10 described in subparagraph (B) has not corrected program
11 deficits related to the outcome measures described in sec-
12 tion 651(b)(2) within 1 year after the review or interim
13 evaluation described in subparagraph (B), the Secretary
14 may revoke such designation of the agency.

15 “(ii) The Secretary shall provide notice and an oppor-
16 tunity for comment to the agency prior to revoking the
17 designation of the agency.

18 “(iii) After so revoking the designation of an agency
19 that serves a community, the Secretary may designate, in
20 accordance with subsection (d), an agency described in
21 subsection (a) as a Head Start agency to serve the com-
22 munity and make grants under subsection (a) to such
23 agency.”; and

24 (5) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and
25 (4) as paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), respectively.

1 (c) CONSIDERATIONS.—Section 641(d) of the Head
2 Start Act 942 U.S.C. 9836(d) is amended—

3 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “If there
4 is” and all that follows through “then the” and in-
5 serting “The”;

6 (2) in the second sentence, by striking “cri-
7 teria,” and all that follows and inserting “including
8 outcome measures described in section 651(b)(2),
9 criteria, and standards, in effect on the date of des-
10 ignation.”;

11 (3) at the end of paragraph (8), by striking
12 “and”;

13 (4) at the end of paragraph (9), by striking the
14 period and inserting “; and”; and

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

16 “(10) the ability of the applicant to ensure con-
17 tinuity of Head Start services.”.

18 (d) EXISTING HEAD START AGENCIES.—

19 (1) APPLICATION.—Each agency that is a des-
20 ignated Head Start agency under section 641 of the
21 Head Start Act on the date of enactment of this Act
22 shall submit an application to the Secretary of
23 Health and Human Services as described in section
24 641(a)(4) of such Act (as added by subsection (a)
25 of this section) and in accordance with the schedule

1 described in paragraph (2), in order to be eligible
2 to—

3 (A) be designated as a Head Start agency;

4 and

5 (B) receive a grant,

6 for an additional period under section 641 of such
7 Act.

8 (2) SCHEDULE.—The Secretary of Health and
9 Human Services shall by regulation establish a
10 schedule for the submission of applications as re-
11 quired in paragraph (1), which schedule shall ensure
12 the submission of all such applications within 7
13 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

14 (e) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
15 Section 651(g)(10) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
16 9846(g)(10)) is amended by striking “evaluations con-
17 ducted under section 641(c)(2)” and inserting “reviews
18 and interim evaluations conducted under section
19 641(c)(1)”.

20 **SEC. 6. ELIGIBILITY.**

21 Section 645(a)(1) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
22 9840(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

23 “(1)(A) The Secretary shall by regulation prescribe
24 eligibility criteria for the participation of persons in Head
25 Start programs assisted under this subchapter.

1 “(B) Except as provided in paragraph (2), such cri-
2 teria may provide—

3 “(i) that a child from a low-income family shall
4 be eligible for participation in a program assisted
5 under this subchapter if the child is from—

6 “(I) a family that has an income below the
7 poverty line; or

8 “(II) a family that is eligible or, in the ab-
9 sence of child care, would potentially be eligible
10 for public assistance;

11 “(ii) pursuant to such regulations as the Sec-
12 retary shall prescribe, that programs assisted under
13 this subchapter may include, to a reasonable extent,
14 participation of children in the area served who
15 would benefit from such programs but whose fami-
16 lies do not meet the low-income criteria prescribed
17 pursuant to clause (i); and

18 “(iii) that a child shall be eligible for participa-
19 tion in such a program if the child is from a family
20 described in subclause (I) or (II) of clause (i) on a
21 date not more than 2 years before such participa-
22 tion, regardless of whether the child was of an ap-
23 propriate age to participate in such a program on
24 such date.”.

1 **SEC. 7. NOTICE, HEARINGS, AND APPEALS.**

2 The Head Start Act is amended by repealing section
3 646 (42 U.S.C. 9841) and inserting the following:

4 **“SEC. 646. NOTICE, HEARINGS, AND APPEALS.**

5 “The Secretary shall establish and implement proce-
6 dures for providing notice, an opportunity for a hearing,
7 and an opportunity for an appeal to persons who are grant
8 recipients or applicants for grants under this Act. Such
9 procedures shall be consistent with other procedures of the
10 Department of Health and Human Services for providing
11 such notice and such opportunities with respect to similar
12 financial assistance.”.

13 **SEC. 8. OUTCOME MEASURES.**

14 Section 651(b) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
15 9846(b)) is amended—

16 (1) by inserting “(1)” after “(b)”; and

17 (2) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(2) The Secretary shall promulgate regulations es-
19 tablishing outcome measures for Head Start agencies car-
20 rying out Head Start programs under this subchapter,
21 which regulations shall require that, effective January 1,
22 1995, each Head Start agency carrying out such a Head
23 Start program shall—

24 “(A)(i) conduct initial assessments of devel-
25 opmental skills, including physical development, self-
26 help skills, social development, academic develop-

1 ment, and communication skills, for not less than 90
2 percent of the children who have been enrolled in the
3 program for not less than 90 days;

4 “(ii) conduct exit assessments of such devel-
5 opmental skills for not less than 90 percent of the
6 children who—

7 “(I) have been enrolled in the program for
8 not less than 6 months; and

9 “(II) are leaving the program;

10 “(iii) provide remedial activities to not less than
11 90 percent of the children enrolled in the program
12 who have identified developmental delays, to address
13 the delays;

14 “(iv) prepare a medical, dental, and devel-
15 opmental history for not less than 90 percent of the
16 children who have been enrolled in the program for
17 not less than 90 days;

18 “(v) conduct medical, vision, hearing, and den-
19 tal screenings for not less than 90 percent of the
20 children who have been enrolled in the program for
21 not less than 90 days;

22 “(vi) conduct medical and dental examinations
23 for not less than 90 percent of the children who have
24 been enrolled in the program for not less than 6
25 months;

1 “(vii) provide necessary treatment to not less
2 than 90 percent of the children with identified medi-
3 cal and dental needs who are enrolled in the pro-
4 gram; and

5 “(viii) fully immunize, in accordance with Head
6 Start guidelines, all of the children who have been
7 enrolled in the program for not less than 90 days;

8 “(B)(i) prepare a family needs assessment,
9 which utilizes a formal assessment tool and meets
10 such specifications as the Secretary may require, for
11 not less than 80 percent of the families of children
12 enrolled in the program;

13 “(ii) prepare a family assistance plan, which
14 outlines the specific measures to be taken by the
15 staff of the Head Start agency and members of the
16 family to meet the needs of the family, for not less
17 than 75 percent of such families;

18 “(iii) provide assistance to not less than 75 per-
19 cent of such families who have identified needs, to
20 assist such families in meeting the goals and objec-
21 tives of the family assistance plan;

22 “(iv) provide an opportunity to participate in a
23 parenting skills program, or other assistance de-
24 signed to improve parenting skills, to not less than

1 90 percent of such families who have identified
2 needs related to parenting skills;

3 “(v) provide education and job skills assistance,
4 including participation in literacy, job search, and
5 other activities, to facilitate participation in appro-
6 priate education and job skills programs, to not less
7 than 90 percent of families described in clause (i)
8 who have identified needs for such assistance; and

9 “(vi) provide an opportunity to participate in
10 volunteer activities related to the operation of the
11 program, to not less than 75 percent of the parents
12 of children enrolled in the program; and

13 “(C)(i) submit to the Secretary a written man-
14 agement plan specifying, at a minimum, the admin-
15 istrative procedures, classroom operations, job de-
16 scriptions, salary schedules, staffing plan, and
17 records management, of the Head Start agency;

18 “(ii) submit to the Secretary a written plan
19 specifying the goals and activities of the agency, and
20 measurable outcomes concerning, at a minimum—

21 “(I) the staff to child ratios for classroom
22 teachers, supervisory staff, support staff, social
23 services staff, and other categories of center
24 staff;

25 “(II) the outreach activities;

- 1 “(III) the facilities improvements;
- 2 “(IV) the enrollment;
- 3 “(V) the use of quality improvement funds;
- 4 “(VI) the inservice and preservice training
- 5 for employees;
- 6 “(VII) the home visiting services;
- 7 “(VIII) the educational programming;
- 8 “(IX) the parent participation in activities;
- 9 and
- 10 “(X) the program expansion,
- 11 of the agency;
- 12 “(iii) implement a uniform recordkeeping sys-
- 13 tem that meets such requirements as the Secretary
- 14 may require with respect to information, including,
- 15 at a minimum, education, developmental, health, so-
- 16 cial service, assessment, and special needs informa-
- 17 tion, about the children, and the families of the chil-
- 18 dren, enrolled in the program;
- 19 “(iv) increase, by 25 percent each year, the per-
- 20 centage of teachers providing services through the
- 21 Head Start agency who are certified according to
- 22 such criteria as the Secretary may determine to be
- 23 appropriate, until all such teachers are so certified;
- 24 “(v) develop—

1 “(I) a variety of volunteer opportunities for
2 the parents of the children enrolled in the pro-
3 gram, which shall include opportunities to par-
4 ticipate in management of the Head Start agen-
5 cy, on advisory boards, or in providing class-
6 room assistance, outreach, or support services;
7 and

8 “(II) other mechanisms to encourage the
9 participation of such parents;

10 “(vi) meet all applicable licensing standards for
11 child care facilities in the State and community in
12 which the Head Start agency is located; and

13 “(vii) transmit the exit assessments described in
14 subparagraph (A)(ii) for not less than 75 percent of
15 the children enrolled in the program—

16 “(I) to the next elementary school in which
17 such a child is enrolled; or

18 “(II) in the case of a child who is enrolled
19 in a program under the Head Start Transition
20 Project Act, to such program.”.

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