



1 EFFECTIVE DATES; TRANSITION

2 SEC. 3. (a) EFFECTIVE DATES.—(1) Except as pro-  
3 vided otherwise in this Act—

4 (A) the amendments made by titles I, II, and  
5 IV of this Act to parts A, B, and H of the Individ-  
6 uals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.  
7 1400 et seq.; hereafter in this Act referred to as the  
8 “IDEA”) shall take effect on July 1, 1996;

9 (B) the amendments to parts C through G of  
10 the IDEA made by section 301 shall take effect on  
11 enactment; and

12 (C) the amendments to parts C through G of  
13 the IDEA made by section 302 shall take effect on  
14 October 1, 1996.

15 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) or any other pro-  
16 vision of this Act, each State receiving assistance under  
17 parts B or H of the IDEA shall comply with each of the  
18 following provisions of the IDEA, as amended by this Act,  
19 a soon as possible after July 1, 1996, but by no later than  
20 the following dates:

21 (A) By July 1, 1997, each of the following:

22 (i) Section 602(11), relating to the con-  
23 tents of individualized education programs  
24 (IEPs). In the interim, the State (and local  
25 educational agencies and affected State agen-



1       “(b) POLICY.—The Congress declares it to be the pol-  
2 icy of the United States that all children with disabilities  
3 should have the opportunity to—

4           “(1) meet developmental goals and, to the max-  
5 imum extent possible, those challenging standards  
6 that have been established for all children; and

7           “(2) be prepared to lead productive, independ-  
8 ent, adult lives, to the maximum extent possible.

9       “(c) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

10           “(1) Disability is a natural part of the human  
11 experience and in no way diminishes the right of in-  
12 dividuals to participate in or contribute to society.  
13 Improving educational results for children with dis-  
14 abilities is an essential element of our national policy  
15 of ensuring equality of opportunity, full participa-  
16 tion, independent living, and economic self-suffi-  
17 ciency for individuals with disabilities.

18           “(2) Before the enactment of Public Law 94-  
19 142, the Education for All Handicapped Children  
20 Act of 1975—

21           “(A) the special educational needs of chil-  
22 dren with disabilities were not being fully met;

23           “(B) more than half of the children with  
24 disabilities in the United States did not receive

1 appropriate educational services that would en-  
2 able them to have full equality of opportunity;

3 “(C) one million of the children with dis-  
4 abilities in the United States were excluded en-  
5 tirely from the public school system and did not  
6 go through the educational process with their  
7 peers;

8 “(D) there were many children with dis-  
9 abilities throughout the United States partici-  
10 pating in regular school programs whose dis-  
11 abilities prevented them from having a success-  
12 ful educational experience because their disabil-  
13 ities were undetected; and

14 “(E) because of the lack of adequate serv-  
15 ices within the public school system, families  
16 were often forced to find services outside the  
17 public school system, often at great distance  
18 from their residence and at their own expense.

19 “(3) Since the enactment of Public Law 94-  
20 142, this Act has been successful in ensuring chil-  
21 dren with disabilities and their families access to a  
22 free and appropriate education and in improving  
23 educational results for children with disabilities.

24 “(4) However, the implementation of this Act  
25 has been impeded by low expectations, watered-down

1 curriculum, categorical approaches, and an insuffi-  
2 cient focus on teaching and learning.

3 “(5) Based on 20 years of research and experi-  
4 ence, we have learned that the education of children  
5 with disabilities can be made more effective by—

6 “(A) having high expectations for children  
7 with disabilities and ensuring their access to the  
8 general curriculum to the maximum extent pos-  
9 sible;

10 “(B) aligning this Act with other local,  
11 State, and Federal school improvement efforts,  
12 including the Goals 2000: Educate America  
13 Act, the Improving America’s Schools Act of  
14 1994, and the School-to-Work Act of 1994, in  
15 order to ensure that children with disabilities  
16 benefit from those reforms and that special  
17 education can become a service for children  
18 rather than a place where they are sent;

19 “(C) providing appropriate special edu-  
20 cation and related services and aids and sup-  
21 ports in the regular classroom, whenever appro-  
22 priate;

23 “(D) promoting noncategorical approaches  
24 that focus on individual strengths and needs  
25 rather than labels;

1           “(E) ensuring that families have meaning-  
2           ful opportunities to participate in the education  
3           of their children at school and at home;

4           “(F) supporting high-quality, intensive  
5           professional development for all personnel who  
6           work with children with disabilities in order to  
7           ensure that they have the skills and knowledge  
8           necessary to enable them to—

9                   “(i) meet developmental goals and, to  
10                  the maximum extent possible, those chal-  
11                  lenging standards that have been estab-  
12                  lished for all children; and

13                   “(ii) be prepared to lead productive,  
14                  independent, adult lives, to the maximum  
15                  extent possible;

16           “(G) providing incentives for whole-school  
17           approaches and early intervention to reduce the  
18           need to label children as disabled in order to  
19           address their learning needs; and

20           “(H) focusing resources on teaching and  
21           learning while reducing paperwork and require-  
22           ments that do not assist in improving edu-  
23           cational results.

24           “(6) While States and local educational agen-  
25           cies are responsible for providing an education for

1 all children with disabilities, it is in the national in-  
2 terest that the Federal Government have a role in  
3 assisting State and local efforts to educate children  
4 with disabilities in order to improve results for those  
5 children and to ensure equal protection of the law.

6 “(d) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are to—

7 “(1) ensure that all children with disabilities  
8 have available to them a free appropriate public edu-  
9 cation that emphasizes special education and related  
10 services designed to meet their unique needs and  
11 prepare them for employment and independent liv-  
12 ing;

13 “(2) ensure that the rights of children with dis-  
14 abilities and their parents are protected;

15 “(3) assist States and localities to provide for  
16 the education of all children with disabilities; and

17 “(4) assess, and ensure the effectiveness of, ef-  
18 forts to educate children with disabilities.”.

19 DEFINITIONS

20 SEC. 102. Section 602 of the IDEA is amended—

21 (1) by striking out subsection (b);

22 (2) by striking out the subsection designation  
23 “(a)”;

24 (3) by striking out “As used in this title” and  
25 inserting in lieu thereof “Except as otherwise pro-

1 vided, the following terms have the following mean-  
2 ings as used in this Act.”;

3 (4) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-  
4 lows:

5 “(1) CHILD WITH A DISABILITY.—(A) The term  
6 ‘child with a disability’ means a child—

7 “(i) who has a physical or mental impairment;  
8 and

9 “(ii) who, by reason of that impairment, needs  
10 special education and related services.

11 “(B) The term ‘physical or mental impairment’  
12 means—

13 “(i) mental retardation;

14 “(ii) a hearing impairment, including deafness;

15 “(iii) a speech or language impairment;

16 “(iv) a visual impairment, including blindness;

17 “(v) an emotional disturbance;

18 “(vi) an orthopedic impairment;

19 “(vii) autism;

20 “(viii) traumatic brain injury;

21 “(ix) other health impairments; or

22 “(x) a specific learning disability, as defined in  
23 paragraph (23).

24 “(C) Nothing in this paragraph requires that children  
25 be classified by their impairment provided that each child

1 with an impairment listed in subparagraph (B) who, by  
2 reason of that impairment, needs special education and  
3 related services, is regarded as a child with a disability  
4 under subparagraph (A).

5 “(D) At a State’s discretion, the term ‘child with a  
6 disability’ also includes a child aged three, four, or five—

7 “(i) who is experiencing a developmental delay,  
8 as defined by the State and as measured by appro-  
9 priate diagnostic instruments and procedures, in one  
10 or more of the following areas:

11 “(I) physical development;

12 “(II) cognitive development;

13 “(III) communication development;

14 “(IV) social or emotional development; or

15 “(V) adaptive development; and

16 “(ii) who, by reason of that developmental  
17 delay, needs special education and related services.”;

18 (5) by amending paragraph (6) to read as fol-  
19 lows:

20 “(6) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of the 50  
21 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of  
22 Puerto Rico, and each of the outlying areas.”;

23 (6) by amending paragraph (8) to read as fol-  
24 lows:

1       “(8) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term  
2 ‘local educational agency’ means—

3           “(A) a public board of education or other public  
4 authority legally constituted within a State for either  
5 administrative control or direction of, or to perform  
6 a service function for, public elementary or second-  
7 ary schools in a city, county, township, school dis-  
8 trict, or other political subdivision of a State, or for  
9 a combination of school districts or counties as are  
10 recognized in a State as an administrative agency  
11 for its public elementary or secondary schools;

12           “(B) any other public institution or agency hav-  
13 ing administrative control and direction of a public  
14 elementary or secondary school; or

15           “(C) an intermediate educational unit, as de-  
16 fined in paragraph (13).”;

17           (7) by amending paragraph (11) to read as fol-  
18 lows:

19       “(11) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
20 term ‘institution of higher education’—

21           “(A) has the meaning given that term in sec-  
22 tion 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965;  
23 and

24           “(B) also includes any community college re-  
25 ceiving funding from the Secretary of the Interior

1 under the Tribally Controlled Community College  
2 Assistance Act of 1978.”;

3 (8) by striking out paragraph (13);

4 (9) in paragraph (15)—

5 (A) by designating the sentences therein as  
6 subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C);

7 (B) in subparagraph (A) as so designated,  
8 by striking out “The term ‘children with spe-  
9 cific learning disabilities’ means those children  
10 who have” and inserting in lieu thereof “The  
11 term ‘specific learning disability’ means”;

12 (C) in subparagraph (B), as designated by  
13 subparagraph (A), by striking out “Such dis-  
14 orders include” and inserting in lieu thereof  
15 “The term includes”; and

16 (D) in subparagraph (C), as designated by  
17 subparagraph (A) by striking out “Such term  
18 does not include children who have learning  
19 problems which are” and inserting in lieu there-  
20 of “The term does not include a learning prob-  
21 lem that is”;

22 (10) in paragraph (16), by striking out “or  
23 guardians”;

1           (11) in paragraph (17), by inserting “orienta-  
2           tion and mobility services,” after “rehabilitation  
3           counseling.”;

4           (12) in paragraph (18), by striking out “section  
5           614(a)(5)” and inserting in lieu thereof “section  
6           614(d)”;

7           (13) by amending paragraph (20) to read as  
8           follows:

9           “(20) INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The  
10          term ‘individualized education program’ means a written  
11          statement for each child with a disability that is developed,  
12          reviewed, and revised in accordance with section 614(d)  
13          and that includes—

14                 “(A) a statement of the child’s present levels of  
15          educational performance, including—

16                         “(i) how the child’s impairment affects the  
17                                 child’s participation and progress in the general  
18                                 curriculum; or

19                         “(ii) for preschool children, as appropriate,  
20                                 how the impairment affects the child’s access to  
21                                 developmentally appropriate activities;

22                 “(B) a statement of measurable annual objec-  
23          tives related to—

1           “(i) meeting the child’s needs that result  
2           from the child’s impairment, to enable the child  
3           to participate in the general curriculum; and

4           “(ii) meeting each of the child’s other edu-  
5           cational needs, if any, that result from the  
6           child’s impairment;

7           “(C)(i) a statement of the special education and  
8           related services and supplementary aids and services  
9           to be provided to the child and any program modi-  
10          fications necessary for the child to—

11                  “(I) attain the annual objectives; and

12                  “(II) participate in the general curriculum  
13                  and in extracurricular and other nonacademic  
14                  activities;

15           “(ii) a justification of the extent, if any, to  
16           which the child will not be educated with non-  
17           disabled children; and

18           (iii) a justification of the extent, if any, to  
19           which the child will not participate in extracurricular  
20           and other nonacademic activities with nondisabled  
21           children;

22           “(D)(i) a statement of any modifications in the  
23           administration of State or districtwide assessments  
24           that are needed in order for the child to participate  
25           in the assessment; and

1           “(ii) if the IEP team established under section  
2           614(d)(2) determines that the child will not partici-  
3           pate in a particular State or districtwide assessment  
4           (or part of such an assessment), a statement of—

5                   “(I) why that assessment is not appro-  
6                   priate for the child; and

7                   “(II) how the child will be assessed;

8                   “(E) the projected date for the beginning of the  
9                   services and modifications described in subparagraph  
10                  (C), and the anticipated frequency and duration of  
11                  those services and modifications;

12                  “(F) in order to ensure that each student com-  
13                  pletes secondary school prepared for employment or  
14                  postsecondary education and independent living, and  
15                  understands their rights under this Act on attaining  
16                  the age or majority (if the State provides for the  
17                  transfer of those rights from the parents)—

18                   “(i) beginning at age 14 (or younger, if de-  
19                   termined appropriate by the IEP team) and up-  
20                   dated annually, a plan for the student’s transi-  
21                   tion from secondary school that focuses on the  
22                   student’s courses of study (such as participa-  
23                   tion in advanced-placement courses or a voca-  
24                   tional education or school-to-work program) in-  
25                   cluding, when appropriate, a statement of the

1 interagency responsibilities or any needed link-  
2 ages (or both) before the student leaves the  
3 school setting;

4 “(ii) beginning at age 16 (or younger, if  
5 determined appropriate by the IEP team), a  
6 statement of needed transition services; and

7 “(iii) beginning at least one year before the  
8 student reaches the age of majority under State  
9 law, a statement about the rights under this  
10 Act, if any, that will transfer to the student on  
11 reaching the age of majority under section  
12 615(j); and

13 “(G) a statement of—

14 “(i) how the child’s progress toward the  
15 measurable annual objectives will be measured;  
16 and

17 “(ii) how the child’s parents will be regu-  
18 larly informed (by such means as periodic re-  
19 port cards), at least as often as parents are in-  
20 formed of their nondisabled children’s progress,  
21 of—

22 “(I) their child’s progress toward the  
23 measurable annual objectives; and

24 “(II) the extent to which that  
25 progress is sufficient to enable the child to

1           achieve the objectives by the end of the  
2           year.”;

3           (14) in paragraph (21)—

4           (A) in subparagraph (A)—

5           (i) in clause (i), by striking out “this  
6           part” and inserting in lieu thereof “part B  
7           of this Act”;

8           (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “part A  
9           of” after “under”; and

10          (iii) in clause (iii), by striking out  
11          “title VII of the Elementary and Second-  
12          ary Education Act of 1965” and inserting  
13          in lieu thereof “part A of the Bilingual  
14          Education Act”; and

15          (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking out  
16          “such part, chapter, or title” and inserting in  
17          lieu thereof “those parts”;

18          (15) in paragraph (22), by striking out “section  
19          7003(a)(2)” and inserting in lieu thereof “section  
20          7501(11)”;

21          (16) in paragraph (23), by inserting “described  
22          in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (14)”  
23          after “local educational agency”;

24          (17) in paragraph (24)—

25          (A) by striking out subparagraph (A); and

1 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking out  
2 “The terms ‘Indian’, ‘American Indian’, and  
3 ‘Indian American’ mean” and inserting in lieu  
4 thereof “The term ‘Indian’ means”;

5 (18) by striking out paragraph (27);

6 (19) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (5), (6),  
7 (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (14), (15), (16), (17),  
8 (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24)(B), (24)(C),  
9 (25), and (26) as paragraphs (3), (6), (24), (25),  
10 (14), (5), (20), (12), (16), (21), (23), (22), (19),  
11 (8), (26), (11), (7), (15), (13), (9), (10), (1), and  
12 (2), respectively;

13 (20) by inserting the following paragraph head-  
14 ings in paragraphs (1), (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8),  
15 (9), (10), (13), (15), (16), (19), (20), (21), (22),  
16 (23), (25), and (26), as redesignated by paragraph  
17 (19): “ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICE.”,  
18 “ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICE.”, “CONSTRUC-  
19 TION.”, “ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.”, “EQUIPMENT.”,  
20 “EXCESS COSTS.”, “FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC  
21 EDUCATION.”, “INDIAN.”, “INDIAN TRIBE.”, “IN-  
22 TERMEDIATE EDUCATIONAL UNIT.”, “NATIVE LAN-  
23 GUAGE.”, “NONPROFIT.”, “RELATED SERVICES.”,  
24 “SECONDARY SCHOOL.”, “SECRETARY.”, “SPECIAL  
25 EDUCATION.”, “SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITY.”,

1 “STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.”, and “TRANSI-  
2 TION SERVICES.”, respectively; and

3 (21) by inserting paragraphs (17) and (18)  
4 after paragraph (16), as redesignated by paragraph  
5 (19), to read as follows:

6 “(17) OUTLYING AREA.—The term ‘outlying area’  
7 means the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and  
8 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

9 “(18) PARENT.—The term ‘parent’ includes a legal  
10 guardian.”.

11 OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

12 SEC. 103. Section 603 of the IDEA is amended by  
13 adding at the end thereof a new subsection (c) to read  
14 as follows:

15 “(c) Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United  
16 States Code, the Secretary is authorized to accept vol-  
17 untary and uncompensated services in furtherance of the  
18 purposes of this Act.”.

19 REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCRIBING REGULATIONS

20 SEC. 104. Section 608(a) of the IDEA is amended  
21 to read as follows:

22 “(a) The Secretary shall provide a public-comment  
23 period of at least 90 days on any regulation proposed  
24 under part B of this Act on which an opportunity for pub-  
25 lic comment is otherwise required by law.”.

## 1 ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

2 SEC. 105. Section 609 of the IDEA is amended to  
3 read as follows:

## 4 “ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

5 “SEC. 609. The Secretary shall not make a grant  
6 under parts C through G of this Act to a State, or to  
7 any local educational agency or other public institution or  
8 agency in the State, that relates exclusively to programs,  
9 projects, and activities pertaining to children aged three  
10 through five unless the State is eligible to receive a grant  
11 under section 619.”.

## 12 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO PARTS C

## 13 THROUGH G

14 SEC. 106. Except as otherwise provided, effective on  
15 October 1, 1996, section 610 of the IDEA is amended to  
16 read as follows:

## 17 “ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO PARTS C

## 18 THROUGH G

19 “SEC. 610. (a) FINDINGS.—With respect to this sec-  
20 tion and parts D through G, the Congress finds as follows:

21 “(1)(A) The Federal Government must be re-  
22 sponsive to the growing needs of an increasingly  
23 more diverse society. A more equitable allocation of  
24 resources is essential for the Federal Government to  
25 meet its responsibility to provide an equal edu-  
26 cational opportunity for all individuals.

1           “(B) America’s racial profile is rapidly chang-  
2           ing. Between 1980 and 1990, the rate of increase in  
3           the population for white Americans was 6.0 percent,  
4           while the rate of increase for racial and ethnic mi-  
5           norities was much higher: 53.0 percent for His-  
6           panics, 13.2 percent for African Americans, and  
7           107.8 percent for Asians.

8           “(C) By the year 2000, this Nation will have  
9           260 million people, one of every three of whom will  
10          be either African American, Hispanic, or Asian  
11          American.

12          “(D) Taken together as a group, minority chil-  
13          dren are comprising an ever larger percentage of  
14          public school students. Large city school populations  
15          are overwhelmingly minority; for example, for school  
16          year 1992–1993, the figure for Miami is 83 percent;  
17          for Chicago, 88 percent; for Philadelphia, 77 per-  
18          cent; for Baltimore, 83.5 percent; for Houston, 87  
19          percent; and for Los Angeles, 87 percent.

20          “(E) The population of individuals with limited  
21          English proficiency is the fastest growing in our Na-  
22          tion, and the growth is occurring in many parts of  
23          our Nation. In the Nation’s two largest school dis-  
24          tricts, nearly half of the children entering kinder-  
25          garten have limited English proficiency. Children

1 with disabilities who are also limited-English-pro-  
2 ficient face very significant obstacles in seeking to  
3 take advantage of their opportunity to receive an  
4 education that will enable them to participate fully  
5 in American society. These obstacles include inap-  
6 propriate referral and evaluation procedures for spe-  
7 cial education services; the limited English pro-  
8 ficiency of their parents, which hinders the parents'  
9 ability to fully participate in the education of their  
10 children; and a shortage of teachers and other staff  
11 who are professionally qualified to serve these chil-  
12 dren.

13 “(2)(A) Greater efforts are needed to prevent  
14 the intensification of problems connected with  
15 mislabeling and to improve post-school results  
16 among minority children with disabilities.

17 “(B) More minority children continue to be  
18 served in special education than would be expected  
19 from the percentage of minority students in the gen-  
20 eral school population.

21 “(C) Poor African American children are 2.5  
22 times more likely to be identified by their school as  
23 mentally retarded than are their white counterparts.

24 “(D) Although African Americans represent 16  
25 percent of elementary and secondary enrollments,

1 they constitute 24 percent of total enrollments in  
2 special education.

3 “(E) The percentage of students with disabili-  
4 ties who are white who go on to college is 18; for  
5 African American students with disabilities, that  
6 percentage is 11; and for Hispanic students with  
7 disabilities, 14 percent.

8 “(F) Up to five years after leaving high school,  
9 over 46 percent of white youth with disabilities were  
10 employed at jobs paying over six dollars per hour,  
11 while less than 14 percent of African American  
12 youth with disabilities and just 25 percent of His-  
13 panic youth with disabilities were employed at or  
14 above that rate.

15 “(3)(A) There is a compelling national interest  
16 in aiding those institutions of higher education that  
17 have historically served students who have been de-  
18 nied access to postsecondary education because of  
19 race or national origin and whose participation in  
20 the American system of higher education is in the  
21 Nation’s interest so that equality of access and the  
22 quality of postsecondary education is enhanced for  
23 all students.

24 “(B) As recently as 1991, Historically Black  
25 Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) enrolled 44 per-

1 cent of the African American teacher trainees in the  
2 Nation. However, in 1993, HBCUs received only  
3 four percent of the discretionary funds for special  
4 education and related services personnel training  
5 under this Act.

6 “(C) HBCUs and other institutions of higher  
7 education with substantial minority enrollments have  
8 played an important role in preparing special edu-  
9 cation teachers and other professionals who provide  
10 services to children with disabilities in inner-city  
11 urban and rural areas that have experienced signifi-  
12 cant shortages in qualified teachers and service pro-  
13 viders. In 1990–91, 38 percent of all schools had  
14 teaching vacancies in special education; schools that  
15 were 20 percent or more minority were more likely  
16 to have teaching vacancies than those with lower  
17 percentages of minority enrollments.

18 “(D) HBCUs and other institutions of higher  
19 education with substantial minority enrollments play  
20 an important role in the development of a profes-  
21 sional workforce in special education that reflects  
22 the full participation of all members of society by  
23 providing access and high-quality education to low-  
24 income and minority students who will enter special  
25 education and related fields.

1           “(E) As the number of African American and  
2 Hispanic students in schools, and in special edu-  
3 cation, continues to rise, the number of minority  
4 teachers and related service personnel produced in  
5 our colleges and universities continues to decrease.  
6 In 1992–1993, 90 percent of those receiving bach-  
7 elor’s degrees in education were white, while only  
8 five percent were African American and less than  
9 three percent were Hispanic. In 1980–81, when al-  
10 most the same total number of bachelor’s degrees in  
11 education were conferred, 87 percent of those receiv-  
12 ing education degrees were white, 9 percent were Af-  
13 rican American, and three percent were Hispanic.

14       “(b) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.—(1) The Secretary  
15 shall develop and implement a comprehensive plan for ac-  
16 tivities under parts D through G of this Act in order to  
17 assist States and local educational agencies in providing  
18 educational, related, and early intervention services to  
19 children with disabilities under parts B and H of this Act.

20       “(2) In developing the plan described in paragraph  
21 (1), the Secretary shall involve individuals with disabil-  
22 ities; parents of children with disabilities; appropriate pro-  
23 fessionals; and representatives of State and local edu-  
24 cational agencies, private school, institutions of higher  
25 education, other Federal agencies, the National Council on

1 Disabilities, and national organizations with an interest in,  
2 and expertise in, providing services to children with dis-  
3 abilities and their families.

4 “(c) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—(1) Except as other-  
5 wise provided, those eligible to apply for awards under  
6 parts D through G are—

7 “(A) institutions of higher education;

8 “(B) State educational agencies;

9 “(C) local educational agencies;

10 “(D) other public agencies;

11 “(E) private nonprofit organizations;

12 “(F) Indian tribes, the Bureau of Indian Af-  
13 fairs (when acting on behalf of schools operated by  
14 the Bureau for children and students on Indian res-  
15 ervations), and tribally controlled schools funded by  
16 the Bureau; and

17 “(G) when the Secretary finds it appropriate in  
18 light of the purposes of a particular competition, for-  
19 profit organizations.

20 “(2) The Secretary may limit individual competitions  
21 to one or more categories of eligible entities listed in para-  
22 graph (1).

23 “(d) SPECIAL POPULATIONS.—(1) In making awards  
24 under parts D through G, the Secretary shall, as appro-  
25 priate, require applicants to demonstrate how they will ad-

1 dress the needs of children with disabilities from minority  
2 backgrounds.

3 “(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act,  
4 beginning with fiscal year 1996, the Secretary—

5 “(A) shall ensure that at least one percent of  
6 the total amount of funds appropriated for parts D  
7 through G (and, for fiscal year 1996, for parts C  
8 through G) is used—

9 “(i) for outreach and technical assistance  
10 to Historically Black Colleges and Universities  
11 (HBCUs), and to institutions of higher edu-  
12 cation with minority enrollments of at least 25  
13 percent, to promote their participation in activi-  
14 ties under those parts; and

15 “(ii) to enable those HBCUs and institu-  
16 tions to assist others in improving educational  
17 results for children with disabilities; and

18 “(B) may reserve funds appropriated under  
19 parts D through G (and, for fiscal year 1996, for  
20 parts C through G) to meet the requirement of sub-  
21 paragraph (A).

22 “(e) PRIORITIES.—In making awards under parts D  
23 through G, the Secretary may, without rulemaking under  
24 section 553 of title 5, United States Code, limit competi-  
25 tions to, or otherwise give priority to—

- 1           “(1) projects that address one or more—
- 2                 “(A) age ranges;
- 3                 “(B) disabilities;
- 4                 “(C) grades in school;
- 5                 “(D) types of educational placements or
- 6           early intervention environments;
- 7                 “(E) types of services; or
- 8                 “(F) content areas such as reading;
- 9           “(2) projects that address the needs of children
- 10   with disabilities who are of a single gender;
- 11           “(3) projects that address the needs of children
- 12   based on the severity of their disability;
- 13           “(4) projects that address the needs of—
- 14                 “(A) low-achieving students;
- 15                 “(B) underserved populations;
- 16                 “(C) children from low-income families;
- 17                 “(D) children with limited English pro-
- 18   ficiency;
- 19                 “(E) unserved and underserved areas; or
- 20                 “(F) particular types of geographic areas,
- 21   such as inner-city and rural areas;
- 22           “(5) projects in particular areas of the country,
- 23   to ensure broad geographic coverage; and
- 24           “(6) any activity that is expressly authorized in
- 25   the applicable part.

1       “(f) APPLICANT AND RECIPIENT RESPONSIBIL-  
2 ITIES.—(1) The Secretary shall require that applicants  
3 for, and recipients of, awards under parts D through G—

4           “(A) involve individuals with disabilities and  
5       parents of individuals with disabilities in planning,  
6       implementing, and evaluating projects; and

7           “(B) where appropriate, determine their  
8       projects’ potential for replication and widespread  
9       adoption.

10       “(2) The Secretary may require that applicants for,  
11 and recipients of, awards under parts D through G—

12           “(A) share in the cost of projects;

13           “(B) prepare their findings and products in for-  
14       mats useful for specific audiences, including parents,  
15       administrators, teachers, early intervention person-  
16       nel, related services personnel, and individuals with  
17       disabilities;

18           “(C) disseminate their findings and products;

19       and

20           “(D) collaborate with other recipients.

21       “(g) PEER REVIEW.—(1) The Secretary shall use  
22 panels of experts who are competent, by virtue of their  
23 training, expertise, or experience, to evaluate applications  
24 under parts D through G that request more than \$75,000.

1       “(2) A majority of each panel under paragraph (1)  
2 shall be individuals who are not employees of the Federal  
3 Government.

4       “(3) The Secretary may use funds available under  
5 parts D through G to pay the expenses and fees of non-  
6 Federal panel members.

7       “(h) PROGRAM EVALUATION.—The Secretary may  
8 use funds appropriated to carry out parts C through G  
9 to evaluate activities carried out under those parts.

10       “(i) INDIRECT COSTS.—The Secretary—

11               “(1) shall not permit any recipient of funds  
12 under parts C through G to use more than 25 per-  
13 cent of those funds for indirect costs; and

14               “(2) may further limit the extent to which any  
15 such recipient may use those funds for those costs.

16       “(j) MINIMUM FUNDING REQUIRED.—(1) The Sec-  
17 retary shall ensure that, for each fiscal year, at least the  
18 following amounts are provided for activities under parts  
19 D through G:

20               “(A) \$12,832,000 to address the educational,  
21 related services, transitional, and early intervention  
22 needs of children with deaf-blindness.

23               “(B) \$4,147,000 to address the educational, re-  
24 lated services, transitional, and early intervention  
25 needs of children with an emotional disturbance, and

1 to prevent children with behavioral problems from  
2 developing an emotional disturbance.

3 “(C) \$10,030,000 to address the educational,  
4 related services, transitional, and early intervention  
5 needs of children with sever disabilities.

6 “(D) \$4,000,000 to address the postsecondary,  
7 vocational, technical, continuing, and adult edu-  
8 cation needs of individuals with deafness.

9 “(2) If the total amount appropriated for any fiscal  
10 year for parts C through G is less than \$254,034,000,  
11 the amounts listed in paragraph (1) shall be proportion-  
12 ately reduced.”.

13 TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO PART B OF THE  
14 IDEA  
15 ALLOCATIONS

16 SEC. 201. (a) ALLOCATIONS.—Subsections (a)  
17 through (e) of section 611 of the IDEA are amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 “(a) GRANTS TO STATES.—

20 “(1) PURPOSE OF GRANTS.—The Secretary  
21 shall make grants to States and the outlying areas,  
22 and provide funds to the Secretary of the Interior,  
23 to assist them to provide special education and relat-  
24 ed services to children with disabilities in accordance  
25 with this part.

1           “(2) OUTLYING AREAS.—(A) From the amount  
2           appropriated for any fiscal year under subsection  
3           (g), the Secretary shall reserve not more than one  
4           percent to provide assistance to the outlying areas in  
5           accordance with their respective populations of indi-  
6           viduals aged three through 21.

7           “(B) The provisions of Public Law 95–134,  
8           permitting the consolidation of grants to the outly-  
9           ing areas, shall not apply to funds those areas re-  
10          ceive under this section.

11          “(3) SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—From the  
12          amount appropriated for any fiscal year under sub-  
13          section (g), the Secretary shall reserve 1.25 percent  
14          to provide assistance to the Secretary of the Interior  
15          in accordance with subsection (f).

16          “(4) HOLD-HARMLESS PAYMENTS.—(A) After  
17          reserving funds for studies and evaluations under  
18          section 646(b), and for payments to the outlying  
19          areas and the Secretary of the Interior under para-  
20          graphs (2) and (3), the Secretary shall allocate to  
21          each State an amount equal to the amount it re-  
22          ceived under this section for fiscal year 1995, as  
23          then in effect.

24          “(B) If a State received any funds under this  
25          section for fiscal year 1995 on the basis of children

1 aged three through five, but does not make a free  
2 appropriate public education available to all children  
3 with disabilities aged three through five in the State,  
4 the Secretary shall reduce the amount allocated to  
5 the State under subparagraph (A) by the amount so  
6 received on that basis.

7 “(C)(i) If the sums available to make alloca-  
8 tions to States under this paragraph are insufficient  
9 to make the full allocations determined under sub-  
10 paragraphs (A) and (B), the Secretary shall—

11 “(I) first, reduce the allocation of any  
12 State whose number of children in the age  
13 range described in paragraph (5) is less than  
14 the number of those children in fiscal year 1995  
15 by the same percentage by which that number  
16 declined from 1995; and

17 “(II) second, if necessary, ratably reduce  
18 the allocations of all States, including those al-  
19 locations reduced under subclause (I).

20 “(ii) If additional funds become available to  
21 make allocations under this paragraph, the alloca-  
22 tions that were reduced under clause (i) shall be in-  
23 creased on the same basis as they were reduced.

24 “(5) ALLOCATION OF REMAINING FUNDS.—  
25 After making allocations under paragraph (4), the

1 Secretary shall allocate any remaining funds to  
2 States on the basis of their relative population of  
3 children aged 3 through 21 who are of the same age  
4 as children with disabilities for whom the State en-  
5 sures the availability of a free appropriate public  
6 education under this part.

7 “(6) PUERTO RICO.—Notwithstanding any  
8 other provision of this section, the percentage of all  
9 funds allocated to the States, the outlying areas, and  
10 the Secretary of the Interior under paragraphs (2)  
11 through (5) of this subsection that is allocated to the  
12 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for any fiscal year  
13 shall not exceed the percentage allocated to Puerto  
14 Rico of all funds allocated to the States, the outlying  
15 areas, and the Secretary of the Interior under this  
16 section for fiscal year 1995, as then in effect.

17 “(7) DETERMINATION OF POPULATION FIG-  
18 URES.—For the purpose of making grants under  
19 this section, the Secretary shall use the most recent  
20 population data that are available and satisfactory  
21 to the Secretary.

22 “(b) STATE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES.—

23 “(1) GENERAL.—(A) Each State may retain up  
24 to 25 percent of the grant it receives under this sec-

1       tion for administration and other State-level activi-  
2       ties in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

3           “(B) A State may use funds it retains under  
4       subparagraph (A) without regard to—

5           “(i) the prohibition on commingling of  
6       funds in section 612(a)(18)(B); and

7           “(ii) the prohibition on supplanting other  
8       funds in section 612(a)(18)(C)(i).

9           “(2) STATE ADMINISTRATION.—(A) For the  
10      purpose of administering this part, including section  
11      619 (including the coordination of activities under  
12      this part with, and providing technical assistance to,  
13      other programs that provide services to children with  
14      disabilities)—

15           “(i) each State may use up to five percent  
16      of the amount it receives under this section for  
17      any fiscal year or \$450,000, whichever is great-  
18      er; and

19           “(ii) each outlying area may use up to five  
20      percent of the amount it receives under this  
21      section for any fiscal year or \$35,000, which-  
22      ever is greater.

23           “(B) Funds described in subparagraph (A) may  
24      also be used for the administration of part H of this

1 Act, if the State educational agency is the lead agen-  
2 cy for the State under that part.

3 “(3) OTHER STATE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES.—Each  
4 State shall use any funds it retains under paragraph  
5 (1) and does not use for administration under para-  
6 graph (2)—

7 “(A) for support and direct services;

8 “(B) for administrative costs of monitoring  
9 and complaint investigation, but only to the ex-  
10 tent that those costs exceed the costs incurred  
11 for those activities during fiscal year 1985;

12 “(C) to establish and implement the medi-  
13 ation process required by section 615(d);

14 “(D) to develop a State Improvement Plan  
15 under part C of this Act;

16 “(E) for activities at the State and local  
17 levels to meet the performance goals established  
18 by the State under section 612(a)(16) and to  
19 support implementation of the State Improve-  
20 ment Plan under part C if the State receives  
21 funds under that part; or

22 “(F) to supplement other funds used to de-  
23 velop and implement a Statewide coordinated  
24 services system designed to improve results for  
25 children and families, including children with

1 disabilities and their families, but not to exceed  
2 one percent of the amount received by the State  
3 under this section. This system shall be coordi-  
4 nated with and, to the extent appropriate, build  
5 on the system of coordinated services developed  
6 by the State under part H of this Act.

7 “(c) SUBGRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-  
8 CIES.—

9 “(1) SUBGRANTS REQUIRED.—Each State that  
10 receives a grant under this section for any fiscal  
11 year shall distribute at least 75 percent of the grant  
12 funds to local educational agencies in the State that  
13 have established their eligibility under section 613,  
14 and to State agencies that received funds under sec-  
15 tion 614A(a) of this Act for fiscal year 1995 and  
16 have established their eligibility under section 613,  
17 for use in accordance with this part.

18 “(2) METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION.—A State  
19 may distribute funds under paragraph (1) on the  
20 basis of—

21 “(A) population;

22 “(B) school enrollment;

23 “(C) numbers of children with disabilities  
24 receiving a free appropriate public education;

25 “(D) allocations for previous fiscal years;

1           “(E) any two or more of the factors de-  
2           scribed in subparagraphs (A) through (D); or

3           “(F) poverty, in combination with one or  
4           more of the factors described in subparagraphs  
5           (A) through (D).

6           “(3) FORMER CHAPTER 1 STATE AGENCIES.—

7           To the extent necessary, the State—

8           “(i) shall use funds that are available  
9           under subsection (b)(1)(A) to ensure that each  
10          State agency that received fiscal year 1994  
11          funds under subpart 2 of part D of chapter 1  
12          of title I of the Elementary and Secondary  
13          Education Act of 1965 receives, from the com-  
14          bination of funds under subsection (b)(1)(A)  
15          and funds provided under paragraph (1) of this  
16          subsection, an amount equal to—

17          “(I) the number of children with dis-  
18          abilities, aged 6 through 21, to whom the  
19          agency was providing special education and  
20          related services on December 1 of the fis-  
21          cal year for which the funds were appro-  
22          priated, subject to the limitation in sub-  
23          paragraph (B); multiplied by

1           “(II) the per-child amount provided  
2           under such subpart for fiscal year 1994;  
3           and

4           “(ii) may use those funds to ensure that  
5           each local educational agency that received fis-  
6           cal year 1994 funds under that subpart for chil-  
7           dren who had transferred from a State-operated  
8           or State-supported school or program assisted  
9           under that subpart receives, from the combina-  
10          tion of funds available under subsection  
11          (b)(1)(A) and funds provided under paragraph  
12          (1) of this subsection, an amount for each such  
13          child, aged 3 through 21 to whom the agency  
14          was providing special education and related  
15          services on December 1 of the fiscal year for  
16          which the funds were appropriated, equal to the  
17          per-child amount the agency received under  
18          that subpart for fiscal year 1994.

19          “(B) The number of children counted  
20          under subparagraph (A)(i)(I) shall not exceed  
21          the number of children aged 3 through 21 for  
22          whom the agency received fiscal year 1994  
23          funds under subpart 2 of part D of chapter 1  
24          of title I of the Elementary and Secondary  
25          Education Act of 1965.

1           “(4) REALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—If a State  
2           educational agency determines that a local edu-  
3           cational agency is adequately providing a free appro-  
4           priate public education to all children with disabil-  
5           ities residing in the area served by that agency with  
6           State and local funds, the State educational agency  
7           may reallocate any portion of the funds under this  
8           part that are not needed by that local agency to pro-  
9           vide a free appropriate public education to other  
10          local educational agencies in the State that are not  
11          adequately providing special education and related  
12          services to all children with disabilities residing in  
13          the areas they serve.

14          “(d) MINIMUM SUBGRANTS.—(1) A State may elect  
15          not to distribute funds to any local educational agency  
16          under this section or under section 619 for any fiscal year  
17          if the total amount it would receive, from the combination  
18          of funds under this section and section 619, is less than  
19          \$7,500.

20          “(2) When a State elects to use its authority under  
21          paragraph (1), it shall use the funds that would otherwise  
22          be provided to the local educational agency to ensure the  
23          provision of a free appropriate public education to children  
24          with disabilities residing in the area served by that agency.

1       “(3) A State’s authority under paragraph (1) does  
2 not apply to a State agency that is eligible for a payment  
3 under section 611(c) or section 619(i).

4       “(e) DEFINITION.—For the purpose of this section,  
5 the term ‘State’ means each of the 50 States, the District  
6 of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.”.

7       (b) SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—Section 611(f)  
8 of the IDEA is amended—

9           (1) in paragraph (1), by striking out “aggre-  
10 gate amounts” and all that follows through “sec-  
11 tion” and inserting in lieu thereof “amount appro-  
12 priated under subsection (g)”;

13           (2) in paragraph (3)—

14               (A) by striking out “an application” and  
15 inserting in lieu thereof “information”;

16               (B) in subparagraph (A)—

17                   (i) by inserting “demonstrates that  
18 the Department of the Interior” before  
19 “meets”; and

20                   (ii) by striking out “activities), 613,  
21 and 614(a)” and inserting in lieu thereof  
22 “activities) and 613”;

23               (C) in subparagraph (D), by striking out  
24 “section 618(b)(1)” and all that follows

1 through “section 618(g)” and inserting in lieu  
2 thereof “section 618 or part E of this Act”; and

3 (D) in the sentence following subparagraph  
4 (F), by striking out “any such application” and  
5 inserting in lieu thereof “the information de-  
6 scribed in this paragraph”;

7 (3) in paragraph (4)—

8 (A) in subparagraph (a)—

9 (i) by striking out “Beginning with”  
10 and inserting in lieu thereof “With”;

11 (ii) by striking out “section 611(a) for  
12 fiscal year 1992” and inserting in lieu  
13 thereof “section 611”; and

14 (iii) by striking out “aggregate  
15 amounts” and all that follows through  
16 “section” and inserting in lieu thereof  
17 “amount appropriated under subsection  
18 (g)”; and

19 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking out  
20 “in the following manner” and all that follows  
21 through “shall receive” in clause (ii) thereof  
22 and inserting in lieu thereof “by allocating to  
23 each tribe or tribal organization”; and



1           “(B) Subparagraph (A) does not apply with re-  
2           spect to children aged 3 through 5 and 18 through  
3           21 in a State to the extent that its application to  
4           those children would be inconsistent with State law  
5           or practice, or the order of any court, respecting the  
6           provision of public education to children in those age  
7           ranges.

8           “(2) FULL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY  
9           GOAL.—The State has established a goal of provid-  
10          ing full educational opportunity to all children with  
11          disabilities, and a detailed timetable for accomplish-  
12          ing that goal.

13          “(3) CHILD FIND.—All children with disabilities  
14          residing in the State are identified, located, and  
15          evaluated, regardless of the severity of their disabili-  
16          ty.

17          “(4) INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM.—  
18          An individualized education program, or an individ-  
19          ualized family service plan that meets the require-  
20          ments of section 676(d) of this Act, is developed, re-  
21          viewed, and revised for each child with a disability  
22          in accordance with section 614(d).

23          “(5) LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT.—(A)  
24          To the maximum extent appropriate—

1           “(i) children with disabilities, including  
2 children in public or private institutions or  
3 other care facilities, are educated with children  
4 who are not disabled; and

5           “(ii) special classes, separate schooling, or  
6 other removal of children with disabilities from  
7 the regular educational environment occurs only  
8 when the nature or severity of a child’s disabil-  
9 ity means that education in regular classes with  
10 the use of supplementary aids and services can-  
11 not be achieved satisfactorily.

12           “(B)(i) If the State distributes State funds on  
13 the basis of the type of setting in which a child is  
14 served, that funding mechanism does not result in  
15 placements that violate the requirements of subpara-  
16 graph (A).

17           “(ii) If the State does not have policies and pro-  
18 cedures to ensure compliance with clause (i), the  
19 State shall provide the Secretary an assurance that  
20 it will revise that funding mechanism as soon as fea-  
21 sible to ensure that it does not result in such place-  
22 ments.”.

23           “(6) PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS.—Children  
24 with disabilities and their parents are afforded the  
25 procedural safeguards required by section 615.

1           “(7) EVALUATION.—Children with disabilities  
2           are evaluated in accordance with section 614 (a)  
3           through (c).

4           “(8) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Agencies in the State  
5           comply with section 617(c), relating to the confiden-  
6           tiality of records and information.

7           “(9) TRANSITION FROM PART H TO PRESCHOOL  
8           PROGRAMS.—(A) Children participating in early-  
9           intervention programs assisted under part H of this  
10          Act, and who will participate in preschool programs  
11          assisted under this part, experience a smooth transi-  
12          tion to those preschool programs; and

13          “(B) by the child’s third birthday, an individ-  
14          ualized education program or, if consistent with sec-  
15          tions 614(d)(1)(B) and 676(d), an individualized  
16          family service plan, has been developed and is being  
17          implemented.

18          “(10) CHILDREN IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS.—

19                 “(A) CHILDREN PLACED IN PRIVATE  
20                 SCHOOLS BY THEIR PARENTS.—To the extent  
21                 consistent with the number and location of chil-  
22                 dren with disabilities in the State who are en-  
23                 rolled by their parents in private elementary  
24                 and secondary schools, those children partici-  
25                 pate in the program assisted under this part by

1 providing them special education and related  
2 services, except when the Secretary has ar-  
3 ranged for services to those children under sub-  
4 section (f) of this section.

5 “(B) CHILDREN PLACED IN, OR REFERRED  
6 TO, PRIVATE SCHOOLS BY PUBLIC AGENCIES.—

7 (i) Children with disabilities in private schools  
8 and facilities are provided special education and  
9 related services, in accordance with an individ-  
10 ualized education program, at no cost to their  
11 parents, if they are placed in, or referred to,  
12 those schools or facilities by the State or a local  
13 educational agency in order to comply with this  
14 part or with any other law requiring the provi-  
15 sion of special education and related services to  
16 all children with disabilities in the State; and

17 “(ii) in all cases described in clause (i),  
18 children with disabilities are placed in, or re-  
19 ferred to, only those private schools and facili-  
20 ties that the State educational agency deter-  
21 mines meet standards that apply to State and  
22 local educational agencies, and children served  
23 in private schools or facilities have all the rights  
24 they would have if served by those agencies.

1           “(11) SEA RESPONSIBLE FOR GENERAL SU-  
2           PERVISION.—(A) The State educational agency is re-  
3           sponsible for ensuring that—

4                   “(i) the requirements of this part are car-  
5                   ried out; and

6                   “(ii) all educational programs for children  
7                   with disabilities in the State, including all such  
8                   programs administered by any other State or  
9                   local agency—

10                           “(I) are under the general supervision  
11                           of the persons in the State educational  
12                           agency who are responsible for educational  
13                           programs for children with disabilities; and

14                           “(II) meet educational standards of  
15                           the State educational agency.

16           “(B) Subparagraph (A) does not limit the re-  
17           sponsibility of agencies other than educational agen-  
18           cies to provide, or pay for some or all of the costs  
19           of, a free appropriate public education for any child  
20           with a disability in the State.

21           “(12) METHODS OF ENSURING SERVICES.—(A)  
22           If any public agency other than an educational agen-  
23           cy is responsible for providing, or paying for, any of  
24           the services that are necessary for the provision of  
25           a free appropriate public education to children with

1 disabilities within the State (such as mental health  
2 services, transition services, and health services for  
3 children with special needs), there is an effective  
4 mechanism for interagency coordination, in order to  
5 ensure that all required services are provided, which  
6 shall include—

7 “(i) an identification of, or a method for  
8 defining, the financial responsibility of each  
9 agency for providing a free appropriate public  
10 education to children with disabilities; and

11 “(ii) procedures for resolving interagency  
12 disputes, including procedures under which  
13 local educational agencies may obtain reim-  
14 bursement from other agencies.

15 “(B) The requirements of subparagraph (A)  
16 may be met through—

17 “(i) State statute or regulation;

18 “(ii) signed agreements between respective  
19 agency officials; or

20 “(iii) other appropriate methods.

21 “(13) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY ELIGI-  
22 BILITY.—The State educational agency will not fi-  
23 nally determine that a local educational agency is  
24 not eligible under this part without first affording

1 that agency reasonable notice and an opportunity for  
2 a hearing.

3 “(14) COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF PERSONNEL  
4 DEVELOPMENT.—The State has in effect, consistent  
5 with the purposes of this Act and with section  
6 676(b)(8), a comprehensive system of personnel de-  
7 velopment that is designed to ensure an adequate  
8 supply of qualified special education and related  
9 services personnel necessary to carry out this part,  
10 including—

11 “(A) a statewide, coordinated personnel-de-  
12 velopment plan that meets the personnel devel-  
13 opment requirements of a State Improvement  
14 Plan under section 624 of this Act, as amended  
15 by section 302 of the Individuals with Disabil-  
16 ities Education Act Amendments of 1995; or

17 “(B) a personnel-development plan devel-  
18 oped in consultation with parents of children  
19 with disabilities, State and local educational  
20 agencies, institutions of higher education, and  
21 professional associations that—

22 “(i) addresses current and projected  
23 needs for special education and related  
24 services personnel throughout the State;

1           “(ii) addresses the need for the pre-  
2           service and in-service preparation of per-  
3           sonnel throughout the State, including reg-  
4           ular education personnel, to provide edu-  
5           cational services to children with disabil-  
6           ities;

7           “(iii) includes a system or procedures  
8           for recruiting, preparing, and retaining  
9           qualified personnel, including personnel  
10          with disabilities and personnel from groups  
11          that are underrepresented in the field of  
12          special education and related services; and

13          “(iv) is integrated, to the maximum  
14          extent possible, with other professional de-  
15          velopment plans and activities, including  
16          those developed or carried out under titles  
17          I and II of the Elementary and Secondary  
18          Education Act of 1965 and title III of the  
19          Goals 2000: Educate America Act.

20          “(15) PERSONNEL STANDARDS.—(A) The State  
21          educational agency has established and maintains  
22          standards to ensure that personnel necessary to  
23          carry out this part, including paraprofessional per-  
24          sonnel, are appropriately and adequately prepared  
25          and trained, including—

1           “(i) standards that are consistent with any  
2 State-approved or State-recognized certification,  
3 licensing, registration, or other comparable re-  
4 quirements that apply to the area in which  
5 those personnel are providing special education  
6 or related services; and

7           “(ii) to the extent the standards described  
8 in clause (i) are not based on the highest re-  
9 quirements in the State applicable to a specific  
10 profession or discipline, the State is taking  
11 steps to require the retraining or hiring of per-  
12 sonnel that meet appropriate professional re-  
13 quirements in the State.

14           “(B) Nothing in this Act, including subpara-  
15 graph (A) of this paragraph, prohibits the use of  
16 paraprofessionals who are appropriately trained and  
17 supervised, in meeting the requirements of this part.

18           “(16) PERFORMANCE GOALS AND INDICA-  
19 TORS.—The State—

20           “(A) has established goals for the perform-  
21 ance of children with disabilities in the State  
22 that—

23           “(i) will promote the national policy  
24 stated in section 601(b) and the purposes  
25 of this Act stated in section 601(d)(1); and

1           “(ii) are consistent, to the maximum  
2           extent appropriate, with other goals and  
3           standards established by the State, includ-  
4           ing those established under the Goals  
5           2000: Educate America Act, the Elemen-  
6           tary and Secondary Education Act of  
7           1965, the School-to-Work Opportunities  
8           Act of 1994, and other relevant programs;

9           “(B) has established performance indica-  
10          tors the State will use to assess progress toward  
11          achieving those goals that, at a minimum, ad-  
12          dress the performance of children with disabil-  
13          ities on assessments; drop-out rates; and grad-  
14          uation rates;

15          “(C) will report to the Secretary and the  
16          public on the progress of the State, and of chil-  
17          dren with disabilities in the State, toward meet-  
18          ing the goals established under subparagraph  
19          (A) every two years; and

20          “(D) based on its assessment of that  
21          progress, will revise its State Improvement Plan  
22          under part C as may be needed to improve its  
23          performance, if it receives funds under that  
24          part.

1           “(17) PARTICIPATION IN ASSESSMENTS.—(A) (i)  
2 Children with disabilities are included in general  
3 State and district-wide assessment programs, with  
4 appropriate accommodations, where necessary; and

5           “(ii) as appropriate, the State or local edu-  
6 cational agency—

7           “(I) develops guidelines for the participa-  
8 tion of children with disabilities in alternate as-  
9 sessments for those children who cannot partici-  
10 pate in State and district-wide assessment pro-  
11 grams; and

12           “(II) develops and, beginning no later than  
13 July 1, 1999, conducts those alternate assess-  
14 ments.

15           “(B) The State educational agency makes avail-  
16 able to the public, and reports to the public with the  
17 same frequency and in the same detail as it reports  
18 on the assessment of nondisabled children—

19           “(i) the number of children with disabil-  
20 ities participating in regular assessments;

21           “(ii) the number of those children partici-  
22 pating in alternate assessments; and

23           “(iii) the performance of those children on  
24 regular assessments (beginning no later than  
25 July 1, 1997) and on alternate assessments (no

1 later than July 1, 1999), when doing so would  
2 be statistically sound and would not result in  
3 the disclosure of performance results identifi-  
4 able to individual children.

5 “(18) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds paid to the  
6 State under this part—

7 “(A) will be expended in accordance with  
8 all provisions of this part;

9 “(B) will not be commingled with State  
10 funds; and

11 “(C)(i) except as provided in clause (ii),  
12 will be used to supplement State, local, and  
13 other Federal funds (including funds not under  
14 the direct control of State or local educational  
15 agencies) expended for special education and re-  
16 lated services, and not to supplant those funds.

17 “(ii) The Secretary may waive, in part, the  
18 requirements of clause (i) if the Secretary de-  
19 termines that the State has provided clear and  
20 convincing evidence that all children with dis-  
21 abilities in the State have available a free ap-  
22 propriate public education.

23 “(19) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—Before the  
24 adoption of any policies and procedures needed to  
25 comply with this section (including any amendments

1 to those policies and procedures), there are public  
2 hearings, adequate notice of the hearings, and an  
3 opportunity for comment available to the general  
4 public, including individuals with disabilities and  
5 parents of children with disabilities.

6 “(20) STATE ADVISORY PANEL.—(A) The State  
7 has an advisory panel, appointed by the Governor or  
8 any other official authorized under State law to  
9 make such appointments, that is representative of  
10 the State population and that is composed of indi-  
11 viduals involved in, or concerned with, the education  
12 of children with disabilities, including—

13 “(i) parents of children with disabilities;

14 “(ii) individuals with disabilities;

15 “(iii) teachers;

16 “(iv) representatives of institutions of  
17 higher education that prepare special education  
18 and related services personnel;

19 “(v) State and local education officials;

20 “(vi) administrators of programs for chil-  
21 dren with disabilities;

22 “(vii) representatives of other State agen-  
23 cies involved in the financing or delivery of re-  
24 lated services to children with disabilities; and

1           “(viii) at least one representative of a voca-  
2           tional, community, or business organization  
3           concerned with the provision of transition serv-  
4           ices to children with disabilities.

5           “(B) A majority of the members of the panel  
6           are individuals with disabilities or parents of chil-  
7           dren with disabilities.

8           “(C) The advisory panel—

9           “(i) advises the State educational agency  
10          of unmet needs within the State in the edu-  
11          cation of children with disabilities;

12          “(ii) comments publicly on any rules or  
13          regulations proposed by the State regarding—

14               “(I) the education of children with  
15               disabilities; and

16               “(II) the procedures for distribution  
17               of funds received by the State under this  
18               part;

19               “(iii) advises the State educational agency  
20               in developing evaluations and reporting on data  
21               to the Secretary under section 618;

22               “(iv) advises the State educational agency  
23               in developing corrective action plans to address  
24               findings identified in Federal monitoring re-  
25               ports under this part; and

1           “(v) advises the State educational agency  
2           in developing and implementing policies relating  
3           to the coordination of services for children with  
4           disabilities.

5           “(b) SEA AS PROVIDER OF FAPE OR DIRECT SERV-  
6 ICES.—If the State educational agency provides free ap-  
7 propriate public education to children with disabilities, or  
8 provides them direct services, it—

9           “(1) shall comply with any additional require-  
10          ments of section 613(a) as if it were a local edu-  
11          cational agency; and

12          “(2) may use funds that are otherwise available  
13          to it under this part to serve those children without  
14          regard to section 613(a)(3)(B) relating to excess  
15          costs.

16          “(c) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION; PRIOR STATE  
17 PLANS.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a State  
18 that wishes to establish its eligibility under this section  
19 shall submit to the Secretary such information as the Sec-  
20 retary may reasonably require.

21          “(2) If a State has on file with the Secretary policies  
22 and procedures that demonstrate that it meets any re-  
23 quirement of this section, including any policies and proce-  
24 dures filed under this part as in effect before enactment  
25 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amend-

1 ments of 1995, the Secretary shall treat the State as meet-  
2 ing that requirement.

3 “(d) SECRETARIAL APPROVAL.—(1) If the Secretary  
4 determines that a State is eligible under this section, the  
5 Secretary shall notify the State of that determination.

6 “(2) The Secretary shall not finally determine that  
7 a State is not eligible under this section until after provid-  
8 ing the State—

9 “(A) reasonable notice; and

10 “(B) an opportunity for a hearing.

11 “(e) ASSISTANCE UNDER OTHER FEDERAL PRO-  
12 GRAMS.—Nothing in this Act permits a State to reduce  
13 medical and other assistance available, or to alter eligi-  
14 bility, under titles V and XIX of the Social Security Act  
15 with respect to the provision of a free appropriate public  
16 education for children with disabilities within the State.”.

17 (b)(1) Section 613(d) of the IDEA is redesignated  
18 as subsection (f) of section 612.

19 (2) Section 612(f) of the IDEA, as redesignated by  
20 paragraph (1), is amended—

21 (A) by inserting the subsection heading “BY-  
22 PASS FOR CHILDREN IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS.” after  
23 “(f)”;

24 (B) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) by striking out “by subsection (a)(4)”  
2 and inserting in lieu thereof “by subsection  
3 (a)(10)”; and

4 (ii) by striking out “of subsection (a)(4)”  
5 and inserting in lieu thereof “of that sub-  
6 section”; and

7 (C) in paragraph (2)—

8 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking out  
9 “which may not exceed” and all that follows  
10 through the end thereof and inserting in lieu  
11 thereof “that does not exceed the amount deter-  
12 mined by dividing—

13 (i) the total amount received by the  
14 State under this part; by

15 “(ii) the number of children with dis-  
16 abilities served in the prior year as re-  
17 ported to the Secretary under section  
18 618.”; and

19 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
20 out “subsection (a)(4)” and inserting in  
21 lieu thereof “subsection (a)(10)”.

22 LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY ELIGIBILITY

23 SEC. 203 (a) Section 613 of the IDEA is amended  
24 to read as follows:

1           “LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY ELIGIBILITY

2           “SEC. 613 (a) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY ELIGI-  
3 BILITY.—A local educational agency is eligible for assist-  
4 ance under this part for any fiscal year if it demonstrates  
5 to the satisfaction of the State educational agency that  
6 it meets each of the following conditions:

7           “(1) CONSISTENCY WITH STATE POLICIES.—

8           The local educational agency, in providing for the  
9 education of children with disabilities within its ju-  
10 risdiction, has in effect policies, procedures, and pro-  
11 grams that are consistent with the State policies and  
12 procedures established under section 612 relating  
13 to—

14                   “(A) the availability of a free appropriate  
15 public education, under section 612(a)(1);

16                   “(B) the goal of providing full educational  
17 opportunity to all children with disabilities,  
18 under section 612(a)(2);

19                   “(C) child find, under section 612(a)(3);

20                   “(D) individualized education programs,  
21 under section 612(a)(4);

22                   “(E) education of children in the least re-  
23 strictive environment, under section 612(a)(5);

24                   “(F) procedural safeguards, under section  
25 612(a)(6);

1           “(G) evaluation, under section 612(a)(7);

2           “(H) confidentiality, under section  
3           612(a)(8);

4           “(I) transition from part H to preschool  
5           programs, under section 612(a)(9); and

6           “(J) children in private schools, under sec-  
7           tion 612(a)(10).

8           “(2) COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF PERSONNEL  
9           DEVELOPMENT.—The local educational agency has  
10          in effect procedures for the implementation and use  
11          of the State’s comprehensive system of personnel de-  
12          velopment established under section 612(a)(14) or  
13          under the State Improvement Plan developed under  
14          part C of this Act, as in effect beginning with fiscal  
15          year 1997.

16          “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds paid to the local  
17          educational agency under this part—

18                 “(A) will be expended in accordance with  
19                 all applicable provisions of this part;

20                 “(B) will be used only to pay the excess  
21                 costs of providing special education and related  
22                 services to children with disabilities;

23                 “(C) will be used to supplement State,  
24                 local, and other Federal funds and not to sup-  
25                 plant those funds;

1           “(D) will not be used to reduce the level of  
2           expenditures for the education of children with  
3           disabilities made by the local educational agen-  
4           cy from State or local funds below the level of  
5           those expenditures for the preceding fiscal year;

6           “(E) may be used, notwithstanding sub-  
7           paragraph (B) or any other provision of this  
8           part, for the costs of special education and re-  
9           lated services provided in a regular class to a  
10          child with a disability in accordance with the  
11          child’s individualized education program, even if  
12          one or more nondisabled children benefit from  
13          those services; and

14          “(F) may be used, in accordance with sub-  
15          section (f) and notwithstanding subparagraph  
16          (B) or any other provision of this part, to de-  
17          velop and implement a coordinated services sys-  
18          tem.

19          “(4) INFORMATION FOR STATE EDUCATIONAL  
20          AGENCY.—The local educational agency provides the  
21          State educational agency information necessary to  
22          enable the State educational agency to perform its  
23          duties under this part, including, with respect to sec-  
24          tion 612(a) (16) and (17), information relating to

1 the performance of children with disabilities partici-  
2 pating in programs carried out under this part.

3 “(5) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The local edu-  
4 cational agency makes available to parents of chil-  
5 dren with disabilities and to the general public all  
6 documents relating to its eligibility under this part.

7 “(6) SUPPORTS FOR THE TEACHER.—At the  
8 start of each school year, and as often as appro-  
9 priate, the local educational agency considers what  
10 supports are needed for each teacher of children  
11 with disabilities in order to help them implement  
12 those children’s individualized education programs.

13 “(b) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION; PRIOR LEA AP-  
14 PPLICATIONS.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2),  
15 a local educational agency that wishes to establish its eligi-  
16 bility under this section shall submit to the State edu-  
17 cational agency information demonstrating that it meets  
18 the requirements of subsection (a).

19 “(2) If a local educational agency or State agency has  
20 on file with the State educational agency policies and pro-  
21 cedures that meet any requirement of this section, includ-  
22 ing any policies, procedures, or applications filed under  
23 this part as in effect before enactment of the Individuals  
24 with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1995, the

1 State educational agency may treat the agency as meeting  
2 that requirement.

3 “(c) STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY APPROVAL.—

4 (1)(A) If the State educational agency determines that a  
5 local educational agency or State agency is eligible under  
6 this section, the State educational agency shall notify the  
7 agency of that determination.

8 “(B) A State educational agency shall not give the  
9 notice described in subparagraph (A) until the Secretary  
10 has notified the State educational agency that the State  
11 is eligible under section 612.

12 “(2) The State educational agency shall not finally  
13 determine that a local educational agency or State agency  
14 is not eligible under this section until after providing the  
15 agency—

16 “(A) reasonable notice; and

17 “(B) an opportunity for a hearing.

18 “(d) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY COMPLIANCE.—

19 (1) If the State educational agency, after reasonable notice  
20 and an opportunity for a hearing, finds that a local edu-  
21 cational agency or State agency that has been found eligi-  
22 ble under this section is failing to comply with any require-  
23 ment described in subsection (a), it shall make no further  
24 payments to the agency under section 620 until the State

1 educational agency is satisfied that the agency is comply-  
2 ing with that requirement.

3 “(2) The last sentence of section 616(a) applies to  
4 any agency that receives a notice from the State edu-  
5 cational agency under this subsection.

6 “(3) In carrying out its responsibilities under para-  
7 graph (1), the State educational agency shall consider any  
8 decision made in a hearing held under section 615 that  
9 is adverse to the local educational agency or State agency  
10 involved in that decision.

11 “(e) JOINT ESTABLISHMENT OF ELIGIBILITY.—(1)  
12 A State educational agency may require a local edu-  
13 cational agency to establish its eligibility jointly with an-  
14 other local educational agency if the State educational  
15 agency determines that the local educational agency would  
16 be ineligible under this section because—

17 “(A) it would not be able to establish and main-  
18 tain programs of sufficient size and scope to effec-  
19 tively meet the needs of children with disabilities; or

20 “(B) it does not qualify for the minimum grant  
21 under section 611(d)(1), if the State elects to use its  
22 authority under that section.

23 “(2)(A) If a State educational agency requires the  
24 joint establishment of eligibility under paragraph (1), the  
25 total amount of funds made available to the affected local

1 educational agencies shall equal the sum of the payments  
2 that each such local educational agency would have re-  
3 ceived under section 611(c) if they were eligible for such  
4 payments.

5 “(B) Local educational agencies that establish joint  
6 eligibility under this subsection shall—

7 “(i) adopt policies and procedures that are con-  
8 sistent with the State’s policies and procedures  
9 under section 612(a); and

10 “(ii) be jointly responsible for implementing  
11 programs receiving assistance under this part.

12 “(C)(i) If an intermediate educational unit is re-  
13 quired by State law to carry out this part, the joint re-  
14 sponsibilities given to local educational agencies under  
15 subparagraph (B)(ii) shall—

16 “(I) not apply to the administration and dis-  
17 bursement of any payments received by that unit;  
18 and

19 “(II) be carried out only by that unit.

20 “(ii) Nothing in clause (i) or elsewhere in this sub-  
21 section relieves an intermediate educational unit of its re-  
22 sponsibility to provide for the education of children with  
23 disabilities in the least restrictive environment, as required  
24 by section 612(a)(5) and subsection (a)(1)(E) of this sec-  
25 tion.

1       “(f) COORDINATED SERVICES SYSTEM.—(1) A local  
2 educational agency may use up to five percent of the  
3 amount it receives under this part for any fiscal year, in  
4 combination with other funds (which shall include funds  
5 other than education funds), to develop and implement a  
6 coordinated services system designed to improve results  
7 for children and families, including children with disabili-  
8 ties and their families.

9       “(2) Activities that a local educational agency may  
10 carry out under this subsection include—

11           “(A) improving the effectiveness and efficiency  
12 of service delivery, including developing strategies  
13 that promote accountability for results;

14           “(B) service coordination and case management  
15 that facilitates the linkage of individualized edu-  
16 cation programs under this part and individualized  
17 family service plans under part H with individual-  
18 ized service plans under multiple Federal and State  
19 programs, such as title I of the Rehabilitation Act  
20 of 1973 (vocational rehabilitation), title XIX of the  
21 Social Security Act (Medicaid), and title XVI of the  
22 Social Security Act (supplemental security income);

23           “(C) developing and implementing interagency  
24 financing strategies for the provision of education,  
25 health, mental health, and social services, including

1 transition services and related services under this  
2 Act; and

3 “(D) interagency personnel development for  
4 those working on coordinated services.

5 “(3) If a local educational agency is carrying out a  
6 coordinated services project under title XI of the Elemen-  
7 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and a coordi-  
8 nated services project under this part in the same schools,  
9 it shall use funds under this subsection in accordance with  
10 that title.

11 “(g) DIRECT SERVICES BY THE STATE EDU-  
12 CATIONAL AGENCY.—(1) A State educational agency shall  
13 use the payments that would otherwise have been available  
14 to a local educational agency or to a State agency to pro-  
15 vide special education and related services directly to chil-  
16 dren with disabilities residing in the area served by that  
17 local agency, or for whom that State agency is responsible,  
18 if the State educational agency determines that the agen-  
19 cy—

20 “(A) has not provided the information needed  
21 to establish its eligibility under this section;

22 “(B) is unable to establish and maintain pro-  
23 grams of free appropriate public education that meet  
24 the requirements of subsection (a) of this section;

1           “(C) is unable or unwilling to be consolidated  
2           with other local educational agencies in order to es-  
3           tablish and maintain such programs; or

4           “(D) has one or more children with disabilities  
5           who can best be served by a regional or State pro-  
6           gram or service delivery system designed to meet the  
7           needs of those children.

8           “(2) The State educational agency may provide spe-  
9           cial education and related services under paragraph (1)  
10          in such manner and at such locations (including regional  
11          or State centers) as it considers appropriate, so long as  
12          the education and services are provided in accordance with  
13          this part.

14          “(h) STATE AGENCY ELIGIBILITY.—Any State agen-  
15          cy that desires to receive a subgrant for any fiscal year  
16          under section 611(c) or section 619(i) shall demonstrate  
17          to the satisfaction of the State educational agency that—

18                 “(1) all children with disabilities who are par-  
19                 ticipating in programs and projects funded under  
20                 this part receive a free appropriate public education,  
21                 and that those children and their parents are pro-  
22                 vided all the rights and procedural safeguards de-  
23                 scribed in this part; and

24                 “(2) the agency meets such other conditions of  
25                 this section as the Secretary finds appropriate.”.

1 (b) Section 614A of the IDEA is repealed.

2 EVALUATIONS, REEVALUATIONS, INDIVIDUALIZED  
3 EDUCATION PROGRAMS, AND EDUCATIONAL PLACEMENTS

4 SEC. 204. Section 614 of the IDEA is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 “EVALUATIONS REEVALUATIONS, INDIVIDUALIZED  
7 EDUCATION PROGRAMS, AND EDUCATIONAL PLACEMENTS

8 “SEC. 614. (a) EVALUATIONS.—

9 “(1) INITIAL EVALUATIONS.—(A) A State edu-  
10 cational agency, other State agency, or local edu-  
11 cational agency shall conduct an initial evaluation, in  
12 accordance with this paragraph and subsection (b),  
13 before the initial provision of special education and  
14 related services to a child with a disability.

15 “(B) An initial evaluation shall consist of proce-  
16 dures to—

17 “(i) determine whether a child is a child  
18 with a disability as defined in section 602(3);  
19 and

20 “(ii) determine the child’s educational  
21 needs.

22 “(2) REEVALUATIONS.—(A) A local educational  
23 agency shall ensure that a reevaluation of each child  
24 with a disability is conducted—

25 “(i) whenever conditions warrant a re-  
26 evaluation;

1           “(ii) whenever the child’s parent or teacher  
2           requests a reevaluation; and

3           “(iii) at least once every three years.

4           “(B) Each reevaluation shall be conducted in  
5           accordance with subsections (b) and (c) of this sec-  
6           tion.

7           “(b) EVALUATION PROCEDURES.—(1) The local edu-  
8           cational agency shall provide notice to the parents of a  
9           child with a disability, in accordance with section  
10          615(b)(3), (b)(4), and (c), that describes any evaluation  
11          procedures it proposes to conduct.

12          “(2) In conducting the evaluation, the local edu-  
13          cational agency shall—

14               “(A) use a variety of assessment tools and  
15               strategies to gather relevant functional and devel-  
16               opmental information that may assist in determining  
17               whether the child is a child with a disability and the  
18               content of the child’s individualized education pro-  
19               gram, including information related to enabling the  
20               child to participate and achieve in the general cur-  
21               riculum or, for preschool children, in developmen-  
22               tally appropriate activities; and

23               “(B) not use any single procedure as the sole  
24               criterion for determining—

1           “(i) whether a child is a child with a dis-  
2           ability; or

3           “(ii) an appropriate educational program  
4           for the child.

5       “(3) Each local educational agency shall ensure  
6 that—

7           “(A) tests and other evaluation materials used  
8           to assess a child under this section are—

9           “(i) selected and administered so as not to  
10          be racially or culturally discriminatory; and

11          “(ii) provided and administered in the  
12          child’s native language or other mode of com-  
13          munication, unless it is clearly not feasible to  
14          do so; and

15          “(B) any standardized tests that are given to  
16          the child—

17          “(i) have been validated for the specific  
18          purpose for which they are used;

19          “(ii) are administered by trained person-  
20          nel; and

21          “(iii) are administered in accordance with  
22          any instructions provided by their producer.

23       “(c) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR REEVALUA-  
24 TIONS.—(1) As part of any reevaluation under this sec-  
25 tion, the evaluation team shall—

1           “(A) review existing evaluation data on the  
2 child, including current classroom-based assessments  
3 and teacher observation; and

4           “(B) on the basis of that review, the team’s  
5 professional judgment, and input from the child’s  
6 parents, identify what additional data, if any, are  
7 needed to determine—

8           “(i) whether the child continues to have an  
9 impairment under section 602 (3) (A) (i);

10           “(ii) the child’s present levels of perform-  
11 ance and educational needs; and

12           “(iii)(I) whether the child continues to  
13 need special education and related services; and

14           “(II) if so, any additions or modifications  
15 to the special education and related services to  
16 enable the child to meet the objectives set out  
17 in the child’s individualized education program  
18 and to participate, as appropriate, in the gen-  
19 eral curriculum.

20           “(2) The local educational agency shall administer  
21 such tests and other evaluation materials as may be need-  
22 ed to produce the data identified by the evaluation team  
23 under paragraph (1)(B).

24           “(3) If the evaluation team determines that no addi-  
25 tional data are needed to determine whether the child con-

1 tinues to be a child with a disability, the local educational  
2 agency—

3 “(A) shall notify the child’s parents of—

4 “(i) that determination and the reasons for  
5 it; and

6 “(ii) their right to request an assessment  
7 to determine whether the child continues to be  
8 a child with a disability; and

9 “(B) is not required to conduct such an assess-  
10 ment unless requested to by the parents.

11 “(d) INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—

12 (1)(A) At the beginning of each school year, each public  
13 agency shall have in effect, for each child with a disability  
14 in its jurisdiction, an individualized education program  
15 (hereafter in this section referred to as an “IEP”), as de-  
16 fined in section 602(11).

17 “(B) In the case of a child with a disability aged  
18 three, four, or five, an individualized family service plan  
19 that contains the material described in section 676(d), and  
20 that is developed in accordance with this section, may  
21 serve as the child’s IEP if using that plan as the IEP  
22 is—

23 “(i) consistent with State policy; and

24 “(ii) agreed to by the agency and the child’s  
25 parents.

1       “(2) Each IEP referred to in paragraph (1) shall be  
2 developed in a meeting by a team (hereafter in this section  
3 referred to as the “IEP team”), composed of—

4           “(A) a representative of the local educational  
5 agency who is—

6               “(i) qualified to provide, or supervise the  
7 provision of, specially designed instruction to  
8 meet the unique needs of children with disabili-  
9 ties; and

10              “(ii) knowledgeable about the general cur-  
11 rriculum;

12           “(B) at least one special education provider;

13           “(C) at least one regular education teacher, if  
14 the student is, or may be, participating in the regu-  
15 lar education environment;

16           “(D) the child’s parents;

17           “(E) whenever appropriate, the child; and

18           “(F) other individuals, at the discretion of the  
19 parent or the agency.

20       “(3) In developing an IEP, the IEP team shall—

21           “(A) consider the child’s strengths and the par-  
22 ents’ concerns for enhancing their child’s education;

23           “(B) consider the results of the initial evalua-  
24 tion or most recent reevaluation;

1           “(C) in the case of a child whose behavior im-  
2 pedes his or her learning or that of others, consider  
3 strategies, including behavioral management plans,  
4 to address that behavior;

5           “(D) in the case of a child with limited English  
6 proficiency, consider the language needs of the child  
7 as they relate to the child’s IEP;

8           “(E) in the case of a child who is blind or vis-  
9 ually impaired, consider whether the child needs in-  
10 struction in braille or in the use of braille; and

11           “(F) in the case of a child who is deaf or hard  
12 of hearing, consider the communication needs of the  
13 child.

14           “(4) The local educational agency shall ensure that  
15 the IEP team—

16           “(A) reviews each IEP at least once a year to  
17 determine whether the annual objectives for the  
18 child are being achieved; and

19           “(B) revises the IEP to address any lack of ex-  
20 pected progress toward the annual objectives and in  
21 the general curriculum, where appropriate; the re-  
22 sults of any reevaluation conducted under this sec-  
23 tion; information about the child provided to the  
24 parents under section 602(11)(G)(ii); the child’s an-  
25 ticipated needs; or as otherwise appropriate.



1 (4) by striking out “and units”.

2 (c) Section 615(b) of the IDEA is amended—

3 (1) by striking out the paragraph designation  
4 “(1)”;

5 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through  
6 (E) as paragraphs (1) through (4) and (6), respec-  
7 tively;

8 (3) in paragraph (1), as so redesignated, by  
9 striking out “our guardian”;

10 (4) in paragraph (2), as redesignated by para-  
11 graph (2)—

12 (A) by striking out “or guardian” each  
13 place it appears;

14 (B) by striking out “unavailable” and in-  
15 serting in lieu thereof “the agency cannot, after  
16 reasonable efforts, locate the parents”;

17 (C) by inserting “the” before “local edu-  
18 cational agency”; and

19 (D) by striking out “intermediate edu-  
20 cational unit” and inserting in lieu thereof “any  
21 other agency that is”;

22 (5) in paragraph (3), as redesignated by para-  
23 graph (2)—

24 (A) by striking out “our guardian”;

25 (B) by striking out “or unit”;

1 (C) by inserting a comma and “in accord-  
2 ance with subsection (c),” after “of the child”;  
3 and

4 (D) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as  
5 subparagraphs (A) and (B);

6 (6) in paragraph (4), as redesignated by para-  
7 graph (2)—

8 (A) by striking out “clause (C)” and all  
9 that follows through “or guardian,” and insert-  
10 ing in lieu thereof “paragraph (3) and sub-  
11 section (c) is”;

12 (B) by striking out “or guardian’s”; and

13 (C) by striking out “so,” and all that fol-  
14 lows through the end thereof and inserting in  
15 lieu thereof “so;” and

16 (7) by inserting after paragraph (4) a new  
17 paragraph (5) to read as follows:

18 “(5) an opportunity for mediation in accordance  
19 with subsection (d); and”.

20 (d) Section 615 of the IDEA is further amended by  
21 inserting, after subsection (b), new subsections (c) and (d)  
22 to read as follows:

23 “(c) CONTENT OF NOTICE.—

24 “(1) BASIC NOTICE.—The notice required by  
25 subsection (b)(3) shall—

1           “(A) include—

2                   “(i) a description of the action pro-  
3                   posed or refused by the agency;

4                   (ii) an explanation of why the agency  
5                   proposed or refuses to take the action; and

6                   “(iii) a description of any other op-  
7                   tions that the agency considered and the  
8                   reasons why those options were rejected;

9           “(B) describe each evaluation procedure,  
10           test, record, or report the agency used as a  
11           basis for the proposed or refused action;

12           “(C) describe any other factors that are  
13           relevant to the agency’s proposal or refusal;

14           “(D) include a full explanation of the pro-  
15           cedural safeguards available under this section,  
16           and under the Secretary’s regulations, relating  
17           to independent educational evaluations, notice,  
18           parental consent, mediation, and the child’s  
19           placement during the pendency of due-process  
20           proceedings;

21           “(E) include at least a brief summary of  
22           the procedural safeguards under this section re-  
23           lating to due-process hearings, State-level ap-  
24           peals (if applicable in that State), civil actions,  
25           and attorney fees; and

1           “(F) include a statement that the agency  
2 will provide a full explanation of the procedural  
3 safeguards available to parents under this sec-  
4 tion, and under the Secretary’s regulations, re-  
5 lating to—

6                   “(i) access to educational records,  
7 whenever requested by the parents; and

8                   “(ii) the subjects described in sub-  
9 paragraph (E) whenever the parents re-  
10 quest that notice or present a complaint  
11 under subsection (b)(6).

12           “(2) SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICES.—Each State  
13 educational agency and local educational agency that  
14 receives assistance under this part shall provide the  
15 notices described in paragraph (1)(F) in the situa-  
16 tions described in that provision.

17           “(d) MEDIATION.—(1) Whenever a hearing has been  
18 requested on any matter in dispute under this section and  
19 the dispute has not been finally resolved, the parents shall  
20 be offered an opportunity for mediation to resolve the dis-  
21 pute.

22           “(2) Each State educational agency shall—

23                   “(A) ensure that impartial mediation is pro-  
24 vided at no cost to parents when requested under  
25 paragraph (1);

1           “(B) compile and maintain a list of individuals  
2           who are—

3                   “(i) trained in mediation; and

4                   “(ii) knowledgeable about—

5                           “(I) the educational needs of children  
6                           with disabilities; and

7                           “(II) applicable statutes and regula-  
8                           tions relating to the educational rights of  
9                           those children, including the requirements  
10                          of this part and the Secretary’s regulations  
11                          under this part; and

12                   “(C) ensure that mediators are appointed from  
13                   that list.

14           “(3) No statements made by either party during me-  
15           diation under this subsection shall be offered or used as  
16           evidence in any hearing, review of a hearing decision, or  
17           civil action under this section.

18           “(4) A public agency may not use mediation to deny  
19           or delay the parents’ right to a due-process hearing under  
20           subsection (e) or to deny the parents any other rights af-  
21           forded under this part.

22           “(5) Mediation may be ended—

23                   “(A) by the parents at any time; and

24                   “(B) by the participating agency at any time  
25           after the first mediation session.

1 “(6) The mediator shall ensure that any agreement  
2 that is reached as a result of mediation is put in writing.”.

3 (e) Subsection (e) of section 615 of the IDEA, as re-  
4 designated by subsection (a)(2), is amended—

5 (1) by striking out “paragraph (1) of this sub-  
6 section,” and inserting in lieu thereof “subsection  
7 (b)(6)”;

8 (2) by striking out “or guardian”;

9 (3) by striking out “or intermediate educational  
10 unit”;

11 (4) by striking out “this paragraph” and insert-  
12 ing in lieu thereof “this subsection”; and

13 (5) by striking out “or unit”.

14 (f) Subsection (f) of section 615 of the IDEA, as re-  
15 designated by subsection (a)(1), is amended—

16 (1) by striking out “paragraph (2) of subsection  
17 (b)” and inserting in lieu thereof “subsection (e)”;  
18 and

19 (2) by striking out “or an intermediate edu-  
20 cational unit”.

21 (g) Subsection (g) of section 615 of the IDEA, as  
22 redesignated by subsection (a)(1), is amended—

23 (1) by striking out “subsections (b) and (c)”  
24 and inserting in lieu thereof “subsections (e) and  
25 (f)”;

1           (2) by striking out “section 613(a)(12)” and in-  
2           serting in lieu thereof “section 612(a)(20)”.

3           (h) Subsection (h) of section 615 of the IDEA, as  
4           redesignated by subsection (a)(1), is amended—

5           (1) in paragraph (1)—

6           (A) by striking out “paragraph (2) of sub-  
7           section (b)” and inserting in lieu thereof “sub-  
8           section (e)”;

9           (B) by striking out “subsection (c)” each  
10          place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof  
11          “subsection (f)”;

12          (2) in paragraph (2)—

13          (A) by striking out “subsection (b)” and  
14          inserting in lieu thereof “subsection (e)”;

15          (B) by striking out “subsection (c)” each  
16          place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof  
17          “subsection (f)”;

18          (3) in paragraph (3)—

19          (A) in subparagraph (A)—

20               (i) by striking out “subparagraph  
21               (B)” and inserting in lieu thereof “sub-  
22               paragraphs (B) and (C)”;

23               (ii) by striking out “or guardian”  
24               each place it appears;

25          (B) in subparagraph (B)—

1 (i) in clause (ii), by striking out “indi-  
2 viduals described in section 602(a)(20)”  
3 and inserting in lieu thereof “IEP team  
4 described in section 614(d)(2)”;

5 (ii) in clause (iii)—

6 (I) by striking out “or guardian”;

7 (II) by striking out “paragraph  
8 (2) of subsection (b)” and inserting in  
9 lieu thereof “subsection (e)”; and

10 (III) by inserting “State or” be-  
11 fore “local educational agency”; and

12 (iii) in clause (iv)—

13 (I) by striking out “a firearm”  
14 and inserting in lieu thereof “a dan-  
15 gerous weapon”; and

16 (II) by striking out “section 921”  
17 and inserting in lieu thereof “section  
18 930(g)(2)”;

19 (C) by adding at the end thereof a new  
20 subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

21 “(C)(i) A hearing officer under this section  
22 may, to the same extent as a court, order a  
23 change in the placement of a child with a dis-  
24 ability to an interim alternative educational set-  
25 ting for not more than 45 days, if the public

1 agency demonstrates, by substantial evidence,  
2 that maintaining the child in his or her current  
3 placement is substantially likely to result in in-  
4 jury to himself or herself, or to others.

5 “(ii) The State or local educational agency  
6 shall arrange for an expedited hearing in any  
7 case described in clause (i).

8 “(iii) If a parent of a child described in  
9 clause (i) requests a hearing pursuant to sub-  
10 section (e), the child shall remain in the alter-  
11 native educational setting described in that  
12 clause during the pendency of any proceedings  
13 under this section, unless the parents and the  
14 State or local educational agency agree other-  
15 wise.”; and

16 (4) in paragraph (4)—

17 (A) by striking out “or guardian” each  
18 place it appears; and

19 (B) in subparagraph (G), by striking out  
20 “section 615 of this Act” and inserting in lieu  
21 thereof “this section”.

22 (i) Subsection (i) of section 615 of the IDEA, as re-  
23 designated by subsection (a)(1), is amended by striking  
24 out “subsections (b)(2) and (c)” and inserting in lieu  
25 thereof “subsections (e) and (f)”.

1 (j) Section 615 of the IDEA is further amended by  
2 adding at the end thereof a new subsection (j) to read  
3 as follows:

4 “(j) TRANSFER OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AT AGE OF  
5 MAJORITY.—Any State that receives funds under this part  
6 may provide that, when an individual with a disability  
7 reaches the age of majority under State law—

8 “(1) the public agency shall provide any notice  
9 required by this section to both the individual and  
10 the parents;

11 “(2) all other rights accorded to parents under  
12 this part transfer to the child; and

13 “(3) the agency shall notify the individual and  
14 the parents of the transfer of rights.”.

15 (k) Section 314(a)(2) of the Improving America’s  
16 Schools Act of 1994 is repealed.

17 WITHHOLDING AND JUDICIAL REVIEW

18 SEC. 206. (a) Section 616(a) of the IDEA is amend-  
19 ed—

20 (1) in the first sentence thereof—

21 (A) by striking out “or intermediate edu-  
22 cational unit” and inserting in lieu thereof “or  
23 State agency”;

24 (B) in paragraph (1)—

25 (i) by inserting “by the State” after  
26 “failure”; and

1 (ii) by striking out “section 612 or  
2 section 613” and inserting in lieu thereof  
3 “this part”; and

4 (C) by striking out paragraph (2) and all  
5 that follows through the end of that sentence  
6 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 “(2) that there is a failure to comply with any  
8 condition of a local educational agency’s or State  
9 agency’s eligibility under this part, the Secretary  
10 shall, after notifying the State educational agency,  
11 withhold any further payments to the State under  
12 this part.”;

13 (2) in the second sentence thereof—

14 (A) by striking out “clause (A) or clause  
15 (B)” and inserting in lieu thereof “the previous  
16 sentence,”;

17 (B) by striking out “under the State  
18 plan”; and

19 (C) by striking out “intermediate edu-  
20 cational units” and inserting in lieu thereof  
21 “State agencies”;

22 (3) in the third sentence thereof—

23 (A) by striking out “or under” and all that  
24 follows through “with disabilities”; and

1 (B) by striking out “intermediate edu-  
2 cational units” and inserting in lieu thereof  
3 “State agencies”; and

4 (4) in the fourth sentence thereof—

5 (A) by striking out “State educational  
6 agency, local educational agency, or intermedi-  
7 ate educational unit” and inserting in lieu  
8 thereof “State educational agency, State agen-  
9 cy, or local educational agency”; and

10 (B) by striking out “or unit”.

11 (b) Section 616(b)(1) of the IDEA is amended by  
12 striking out “State plan submitted under section 613” and  
13 inserting in lieu thereof “eligibility under section 612”.

14 ADMINISTRATION

15 SEC. 207. (a) Section 617(a) of the Individuals with  
16 Disabilities Education Act is amended to read as follows:

17 “(a) SECRETARY’S RESPONSIBILITIES.—In carrying  
18 out this part, the Secretary shall—

19 “(1) cooperate with, and (directly or by grant  
20 or contract) furnish technical assistance necessary  
21 to, the State in matters relating to—

22 “(A) the education of children with disabil-  
23 ities;

24 “(B) carrying out this part; and

25 “(2) provide short-term training programs and  
26 institutes; and

1           “(3) disseminate information about, and other-  
2           wise promote, the education of all children with dis-  
3           abilities in the States.”.

4           (b) Section 617(c) of the IDEA is amended by strik-  
5           ing out “section 438” and inserting in lieu thereof “sec-  
6           tion 444”.

7           (c) Section 617(d) of the IDEA is amended by strik-  
8           ing out “required by subsections” and all that follows  
9           through “this subsection” and inserting in lieu thereof  
10          “authorized by subsection (a) of this section, section 618,  
11          and part E of this Act”.

12                           EVALUATION AND PROGRAM INFORMATION

13          SEC. 208. (a) FISCAL YEAR 1996.—Section 618 of  
14          the IDEA is amended—

15                   (1) in subsection (e)(2), by striking out “1994”  
16                   and inserting in lieu thereof “1996”; and

17                   (2) in subsection (h), by striking out “1994”  
18                   and inserting in lieu thereof “1996”.

19          (b) FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING WITH FISCAL YEAR  
20          1997.—Effective on October 1, 1996, section 618 of the  
21          IDEA is amended to read as follows:

22                           “PROGRAM INFORMATION

23                   “SEC. 618. Each State that receives assistance under  
24                   this part, and the Secretary of the Interior, shall provide  
25                   data each year to the Secretary on—

1           “(1) the number of children who are receiv-  
2           ing—

3                   “(A) a free appropriate public education;

4                   “(B) early intervention services because—

5                           “(i) they have developmental delays;

6                           or

7                           “(ii) they have a diagnosed physical or

8                           mental condition that has a high prob-

9                           ability of resulting in developmental delay;

10                          or

11                          “(C) early intervention services because

12                          they are at risk of having substantial devel-

13                          opmental delays if those services are not pro-

14                          vided and—

15                                  “(i) they are being served as infants

16                                  and toddlers with disabilities under part

17                                  H; or

18                                  “(ii) they are being served as at-risk

19                                  infants and toddlers under section 677;

20                          “(2) the types of early intervention services pro-

21                          vided, which may be based on a sampling of data;

22                          “(3) the number of children with disabilities—

23                                  “(A) participating in regular education

24                                  programs;



1           “(2) at the State’s discretion, to 2-year-old chil-  
2           dren with disabilities who will turn three during the  
3           school year.

4           “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—A State or outlying area is eligi-  
5           ble for a grant under this section if it—

6           “(1) has established its eligibility under section  
7           612; and

8           “(2) makes a free appropriate public education  
9           available to all children with disabilities, aged three  
10          through five, residing in its jurisdiction.

11          “(c) HOLD-HARMLESS PAYMENTS.—(1) From the  
12          amount appropriated for any fiscal year under subsection  
13          (m), the Secretary shall allocate to each eligible State and  
14          outlying area the amount it received for fiscal year 1995  
15          under this section, as then in effect.

16          “(2)(A) If the sums available to make allocations to  
17          States and outlying areas under this section are insuffi-  
18          cient to make the full allocations described in paragraph  
19          (1), the Secretary shall—

20                 “(i) first, reduce the allocation of any State  
21                 whose number of children aged three through five is  
22                 less than the number of those children in fiscal year  
23                 1995 by the same percentage by which that number  
24                 declined from 1995; and

1           “(ii) second, if necessary, ratably reduce the al-  
2           locations of all States, including those allocations re-  
3           duced under clause (i).

4           “(B) If additional funds become available to make al-  
5           locations under this section, the allocations that were re-  
6           duced under subparagraph (A) shall be increased on the  
7           same basis as they were reduced.

8           “(d) ALLOCATION OF REMAINING FUNDS.—(1) After  
9           making allocations under subsection (c), the Secretary  
10          shall allocate any remaining funds to eligible States and  
11          outlying areas on the basis of their relative population of  
12          children aged 3 through 5.

13          “(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-  
14          tion, the percentage of funds appropriated under this sec-  
15          tion for any fiscal year that is allocated to the Common-  
16          wealth of Puerto Rico shall not exceed the percentage allo-  
17          cated to Puerto Rico of all funds appropriated under this  
18          section for fiscal year 1995, as then in effect.

19          “(e) DETERMINATION OF POPULATION FIGURES.—  
20          For the purpose of making grants under this section, the  
21          Secretary shall use the most recent population data that  
22          are available and satisfactory to the Secretary.

23          “(f) STATE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES.—

24                  (1) GENERAL.—Each State may retain up to  
25          25 percent of the grant it receives under this section

1 for administration and other State-level activities in  
2 accordance with subsections (g) and (h).

3 “(2) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN REQUIRE-  
4 MENTS.—A State may use funds it retains under  
5 paragraph (1) without regard to—

6 “(A) the prohibition on commingling of  
7 funds in section 612(a)(18)(B); and

8 “(B) the prohibition on supplanting other  
9 funds in section 612(a)(18)(C)(i).

10 “(g) STATE ADMINISTRATION.—(1) Each State and  
11 outlying area may use up to five percent of the grant it  
12 receives under this section for any fiscal year for the pur-  
13 pose of administering this part, including the coordination  
14 of activities under this part with, and providing technical  
15 assistance to, other programs that provide services to chil-  
16 dren with disabilities.

17 “(2) Funds described in paragraph (1) may also be  
18 used for the administration of part H of this Act, if the  
19 State educational agency is the lead agency for the State  
20 under that part.

21 “(h) OTHER STATE-LEVEL ACTIVITIES.—Each State  
22 shall use any funds it retains under subsection (f) and  
23 does not use for administration under subsection (g)—

24 “(1) for support services (including establishing  
25 and implementing the mediation process required by

1 section 615(d)), which may benefit children with dis-  
2 abilities younger than three and older than five as  
3 long as those services also benefit children with dis-  
4 abilities aged three through five;

5 “(2) for direct services for children eligible for  
6 services under this section;

7 “(3) to develop a State Improvement Plan  
8 under part C;

9 “(4) for activities at the State and local levels  
10 to meet the performance goals established by the  
11 State under section 612(a)(16) and to support im-  
12 plementation of the State Improvement Plan under  
13 part C if the State receives funds under that part;  
14 or

15 “(5) to supplement other funds used to develop  
16 and implement a Statewide coordinated services sys-  
17 tem designed to improve results for children and  
18 families, including children with disabilities and their  
19 families, but not to exceed one percent of the  
20 amount received by the State under this section.

21 “(i) SUBGRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-  
22 CIES.—

23 (1) REQUIREMENT TO MAKE SUBGRANTS.—

24 Each State that receives a grant under this section  
25 for any fiscal year shall distribute at least 75 per-

1 cent of the grant funds to local educational agencies  
2 in the State, and to State agencies that received  
3 funds under section 614A(a) for fiscal year 1995,  
4 that have established their eligibility under section  
5 613 of this part.

6 “(2) METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION.—A State  
7 may distribute funds under paragraph (1) on the  
8 basis of—

9 “(A) population;

10 “(B) school enrollment;

11 “(C) numbers of children with disabilities  
12 aged three through five receiving a free appro-  
13 priate public education;

14 “(D) allocations for previous fiscal years;

15 “(E) any two or more of the factors de-  
16 scribed in subparagraphs (A) through (D); or

17 “(F) poverty, in combination with one or  
18 more of the factors described in subparagraphs  
19 (A) through (D).

20 “(j) PART H INAPPLICABLE.—Part H of this Act  
21 does not apply to any child with a disability receiving a  
22 free appropriate public education, in accordance with this  
23 part, with funds received under this section.

24 “(k) OUTLYING AREAS.—The provisions of Public  
25 Law 95–134, permitting the consolidation of grants to the

1 outlying areas, shall not apply to funds those areas receive  
2 under this section.

3 “(l) DEFINITION OF ‘STATE’.—For the purpose of  
4 this section, the term ‘State’ means each of the 50 States,  
5 the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puer-  
6 to Rico.

7 “(m) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For  
8 the purpose of carrying out this section, there are author-  
9 ized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary.”.

10 PAYMENTS

11 SEC. 210. Section 620 of the IDEA is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 “PAYMENTS

14 “SEC. 620. (a) PAYMENTS TO STATES.—The Sec-  
15 retary shall make payments to each State that has dem-  
16 onstrated its eligibility under section 612, in amounts that  
17 the Secretary determines under sections 611 and 619.

18 “(b) PAYMENTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES  
19 AND STATE AGENCIES.—Any State educational agency re-  
20 ceiving payments under this section shall distribute pay-  
21 ments to local educational agencies (and to State agencies  
22 that received funds under section 614A for fiscal year  
23 1995) in the State that the State educational agency has  
24 determined are eligible under section 613, in amounts de-  
25 termined under sections 611 and 619.”.

## 1 TITLE III—DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS

## 2 ONE-YEAR EXTENSION

3 SEC. 301. (a) PART C—CENTERS AND SERVICES TO  
4 MEET SPECIAL NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABIL-  
5 ITIES.—Part C of the IDEA is amended—

6 (1) in section 625(a)(6)—

7 (A) in the second sentence thereof, by  
8 striking out “1994” and inserting in lieu there-  
9 of “1996”; and

10 (B) by striking out the third sentence  
11 thereof; and

12 (2) in each of subsections (a) through (h) of  
13 section 628, by striking out “fiscal year 1994” and  
14 inserting in lieu thereof “each of the fiscal years  
15 1994 through 1996”.

16 (b) PART D—TRAINING PERSONNEL FOR THE EDU-  
17 CATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—(1) Each  
18 of paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 635(a) of the  
19 IDEA is amended by striking out “fiscal year 1994” and  
20 inserting in lieu thereof “each of the fiscal years 1994  
21 through 1996”.

22 (2) Section 635(a) of the IDEA is further amended  
23 in each of paragraphs (1) and (3) by striking out  
24 “631(d)” and inserting in lieu thereof “631(e)”.

1 (c) PART E—RESEARCH IN THE EDUCATION OF IN-  
2 DIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.—Section 643 of the  
3 IDEA is amended by striking out “fiscal year 1994” and  
4 inserting in lieu thereof “each of the fiscal years 1994  
5 through 1996”.

6 (d) PART F—INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA FOR INDIVID-  
7 UALS WITH DISABILITIES.—Section 653 of the IDEA is  
8 amended by striking out “fiscal year 1994” and inserting  
9 in lieu thereof “each of the fiscal years 1994 through  
10 1996”.

11 (e) PART G—TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATIONAL MEDIA,  
12 AND MATERIALS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABIL-  
13 ITIES.—Section 662 of the IDEA is amended by striking  
14 out “fiscal year 1994” and inserting in lieu thereof “each  
15 of the fiscal years 1994 through 1996”.

16 (f) CROSS-REFERENCES.—For the purpose of carry-  
17 ing out parts C through G of the IDEA with funds appro-  
18 priated for fiscal year 1996, references in those parts to  
19 any provision of parts A, B, or H of the IDEA shall be  
20 regarded as references to those provisions as in effect be-  
21 fore enactment of this Act.

22 REAUTHORIZATION OF DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS

23 SEC. 302. Effective October 1, 1996, parts C through  
24 G of the IDEA are amended to read as follows:

1                   “PART C—STATE IMPROVEMENT

2                                   “FINDINGS

3           “SEC. 621. The Congress finds as follows:

4                   “(1) Many of the critical barriers to improving  
5           educational results for children with disabilities are  
6           caused by statewide and systemic problems, such as  
7           the exclusion of children with disabilities from State-  
8           wide assessments, lack of access to regular education  
9           programs, and finance systems that promote inap-  
10          propriate placements;

11                   “(2) Previous efforts to improve the education  
12          of children with disabilities have achieved some good  
13          results. However, federally funded efforts have fo-  
14          cused either on specific disabilities or programs and  
15          have not focused on improvement of results for chil-  
16          dren with all disabilities at all age levels. Further,  
17          most Federal categorical program resources have not  
18          concentrated on State and local agencies’ efforts to  
19          improve implementation of parts B and H of this  
20          Act.

21                   “(3) State and local agencies are generally in  
22          the best position to develop their own comprehensive  
23          strategies for improving results for children with dis-  
24          abilities in the context of their overall State edu-  
25          cation improvement efforts.

1           “(4) Educational systems that effectively serve  
2 children with disabilities—

3           “(A) have goals for the performance of  
4 children with disabilities and performance indi-  
5 cators to measure progress toward those goals;  
6 identify the needs that must be addressed to  
7 meet those goals; and develop effective strate-  
8 gies to address those needs;

9           “(B) consider the needs of all students, in-  
10 cluding students with disabilities, in planning,  
11 evaluation, and educational reform activities  
12 such as those supported under titles I and II of  
13 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
14 of 1965, the Goals 2000: Educate America Act,  
15 and the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of  
16 1994;

17           “(C) have adequate numbers of appro-  
18 priately prepared personnel with the skills and  
19 knowledge necessary to enable children with  
20 disabilities to meet developmental goals and, to  
21 the maximum extent possible, those challenging  
22 standards that have been established for all  
23 children;

24           “(D) hold school districts and schools ac-  
25 countable for the academic progress of children

1 with disabilities in the same manner as they do  
2 for all children;

3 “(E) develop IEPs that reflect high expect-  
4 tations and promote access to the general cur-  
5 riculum for children with disabilities;

6 “(F) support family involvement to im-  
7 prove learning;

8 “(G) have financing systems that encour-  
9 age prevention and early intervention and dis-  
10 courage inappropriately placing students in re-  
11 strictive settings;

12 “(H) support successful transition from  
13 early intervention services to preschool edu-  
14 cation, from preschool education to elementary  
15 school, and from secondary school to adult life;

16 “(I) provide for the participation of chil-  
17 dren with disabilities, including those with sig-  
18 nificant and multiple disabilities, in the least re-  
19 strictive environments;

20 “(J) promote the use of special education  
21 as services and supports for students in the  
22 least restrictive environment rather than as a  
23 place to send children;

24 “(K) have unified education system ap-  
25 proaches that promote individualization, flexibil-

1           ity, and responsibility for all children at the  
2           school-building level;

3           “(L) coordinate education services with  
4           each other and with health, social, and other  
5           services (including mental health and vocational  
6           rehabilitation services), and with the juvenile  
7           justice system, to meet the needs of children  
8           with disabilities and their families; and

9           “(M) provide technical assistance to school  
10          districts and schools on how to improve results  
11          for children with disabilities in the context of  
12          comprehensive technical assistance efforts and  
13          ensure that research and other knowledge re-  
14          garding best practices reaches personnel serving  
15          children with disabilities;

16          “(5) the principles of professional development  
17          disseminated by the Secretary in 1995 provide use-  
18          ful guidance for States and local educational agen-  
19          cies in their efforts to provide high-quality profes-  
20          sional development for individuals who work with  
21          children with disabilities; and

22          “(6) peer review of State efforts to address the  
23          needs of children with disabilities can provide both  
24          an incentive for systems change and a valuable re-  
25          source for information that States may draw on in

1 seeking solutions to problems in serving those chil-  
2 dren.

3 “PURPOSE

4 “SEC. 622. The purpose of this part is to assist  
5 States in reforming and improving systems for providing  
6 educational and early intervention services, including their  
7 systems for professional development, to help children  
8 with disabilities—

9 “(1) meet developmental goals and, to the max-  
10 imum extent possible, those challenging standards  
11 that have been established for all children; and

12 “(2) be prepared to lead productive, independ-  
13 ent adult lives to the maximum extent possible.

14 “ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

15 “SEC. 623. Each State educational agency may apply  
16 for a grant under this part.

17 “STATE IMPROVEMENT PLANS

18 “SEC. 624. (a) GENERAL.—Any State desiring to re-  
19 ceive a grant under this part shall submit to the Secretary  
20 a State Improvement Plan that—

21 “(1) is developed in consultation with parents  
22 of children with disabilities; parents of non-disabled  
23 children; individuals with disabilities; organizations  
24 representing individuals with disabilities and their  
25 parents; early intervention agencies; local edu-  
26 cational agencies; general and special education

1 teachers; early intervention and related services pro-  
2 viders; administrators of general and special edu-  
3 cation; individuals knowledgeable about vocational  
4 education; the State agency for higher education; in-  
5 stitutions of higher education and schools of edu-  
6 cation; the State vocational rehabilitation agency;  
7 public agencies with jurisdiction in the areas of  
8 health, mental health, social services, and juvenile  
9 justice; community-based and other nonprofit orga-  
10 nizations; the State advisory panel established under  
11 part B; the State Interagency Coordinating Council  
12 established under part H; and interested members of  
13 the general public; and

14 “(2) is integrated, to the maximum extent pos-  
15 sible, with State plans under title III of the Goals  
16 2000: Educate America Act, the School-to-Work Op-  
17 portunities Act of 1994, the Elementary and Sec-  
18 ondary Education Act of 1965, the Rehabilitation  
19 Act of 1973, and other Act, as appropriate.

20 “(b) DETERMINING CHILD AND PROGRAM NEEDS.—  
21 (1) Each State Improvement Plan shall—

22 “(A) identify those critical aspects of early  
23 intervention, general education, and special edu-  
24 cation programs (including professional development,  
25 based on an assessment of State and local needs)

1 that must be improved to enable children with dis-  
2 abilities to meet the goals established by the State  
3 under section 612(a)(16); and

4 “(B) address the major findings of the Sec-  
5 retary’s most recent State compliance reviews as  
6 they relate to improving results for children with  
7 disabilities.

8 “(2) To meet the requirements of paragraph (1)(A),  
9 the State Improvement Plan shall include at least—

10 “(A) an analysis of all information, reasonably  
11 available to the State, on the performance of chil-  
12 dren with disabilities in the State, including—

13 “(i) their performance on State assess-  
14 ments and other performance indicators estab-  
15 lished for all children, including drop-out rates  
16 and graduation rates;

17 “(ii) their participation in postsecondary  
18 education and employment; and

19 “(iii) how their performance compares to  
20 that of other children;

21 “(B) an analysis of State and local needs for  
22 professional development for personnel to serve chil-  
23 dren with disabilities that includes, at a minimum—

1           “(i) the State’s assessment of personnel  
2 needs under the Elementary and Secondary  
3 Education Act of 1965; and

4           (ii) relevant information on current and  
5 anticipated personnel shortages, and on the ex-  
6 tent of certification or retraining necessary for  
7 those providing services to children with disabil-  
8 ities; and

9           “(C) an analysis of all other information, rea-  
10 sonably available to the State, on the effectiveness of  
11 its systems of early intervention, special education,  
12 and general education in meeting the needs of chil-  
13 dren with disabilities, including the extent to which  
14 children with disabilities are receiving a free appro-  
15 priate public education with appropriate supple-  
16 mentary aids and services in regular education envi-  
17 ronments.

18           “(c) IMPROVEMENT STRATEGIES.—Each State im-  
19 provement plan shall—

20           “(1) describe the strategies the State will use to  
21 address the needs identified under subsection (b), in-  
22 cluding—

23           “(A) how it will hold school districts and  
24 schools accountable for educational progress of  
25 children with disabilities;

1           “(B) how it will provide high-quality tech-  
2 nical assistance to school districts and schools  
3 to improve results for children with disabilities  
4 in the context of comprehensive technical assist-  
5 ance efforts and ensure that research and other  
6 knowledge regarding best practices reaches per-  
7 sonnel servicing children with disabilities;

8           “(C) if the State is developing a statewide  
9 system of coordinated services under section  
10 611(b)(3)(F), how it will implement and evalu-  
11 ate the results of that effort;

12           “(D) how it will change State policies and  
13 procedures to address systemic barriers to im-  
14 proving results for students with disabilities,  
15 such as—

16                   “(i) a lack of knowledge about best  
17 practices;

18                   “(ii) the failure to provide smooth  
19 transitions from one type of service or pro-  
20 gram to the next, such as from pre-school  
21 to school, or from school to employment;

22                   “(iii) the lack of coordinated services;

23                   “(iv) criteria and procedures for de-  
24 termining eligibility for special education;

1           “(v) a dual general education-special  
2           education administrative structure;

3           “(vi) the exclusion of children with  
4           disabilities from reforms in general edu-  
5           cation;

6           “(vii) credentialing of teachers and  
7           other personnel; and

8           “(viii) financing of general and special  
9           education;

10          “(E) how it will address the identified  
11          needs for pre-service and in-service preparation  
12          to ensure that all personnel who will work with  
13          children with disabilities (including both profes-  
14          sional and paraprofessional personnel who pro-  
15          vide or will provide early intervention services,  
16          special education, regular education, or related  
17          services) have the skills and knowledge nec-  
18          essary to enable children with disabilities to  
19          meet developmental goals and, to the maximum  
20          extent possible, those challenging standards  
21          that have been established for all children, and  
22          be prepared to lead productive, independent  
23          adult lives to the maximum extent possible, in-  
24          cluding a description of how—

1           “(i) the State will work with institu-  
2           tions of higher education and other entities  
3           that prepare personnel who work with chil-  
4           dren with disabilities on both a pre-service  
5           and in-service basis to ensure that those  
6           institutions and entities develop the capac-  
7           ity to support sustained, intensive, and  
8           high-quality professional development pro-  
9           grams;

10           “(ii) the State’s requirements for li-  
11           censure of teachers and administrators, in-  
12           cluding certification and recertification,  
13           support an adequate supply of personnel  
14           with the necessary skills and knowledge  
15           (including, where appropriate, strategies  
16           for developing reciprocal certification  
17           agreements and common certification re-  
18           quirements with other States);

19           “(iii) the State will address State and  
20           local needs for personnel who meet certifi-  
21           cation, licensing, or other State personnel  
22           requirements;

23           “(iv) the State will address State and  
24           local needs for in-service education of early

1 intervention, general and special education,  
2 and related services personnel;

3 “(v) the State will prepare special  
4 education and general education personnel  
5 with the content knowledge and collabo-  
6 rative skills needed to appropriately help  
7 children with disabilities achieve to chal-  
8 lenging standards; and

9 “(vi) significant knowledge derived  
10 from education research and other sources,  
11 as well as promising practices, materials,  
12 and technology, will be used in the profes-  
13 sional development of teachers, administra-  
14 tors, and early intervention and related  
15 services personnel;

16 “(F) strategies that will address systemic  
17 problems identified in Federal compliance re-  
18 views, including shortages of qualified person-  
19 nel; and

20 “(G) how the State will assess, on a regu-  
21 lar basis, the extent to which the strategies im-  
22 plemented under this part have been effective in  
23 meeting the performance goals established by  
24 the State under section 612(a)(16);

1           “(2) describe the strategies and activities to be  
2 supported under this part and how they will be co-  
3 ordinated with—

4           “(A) other activities conducted with Fed-  
5 eral funds, especially those received under parts  
6 B and H of this Act, titles I and II of the Ele-  
7 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965,  
8 the Goals 2000: Educate America Act, the  
9 School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994, the  
10 Head Start Act, and the Rehabilitation Act of  
11 1973;

12           “(B) other programs supported by State  
13 and local funds;

14           “(C) where appropriate, resources from  
15 business and industry, to develop strategies to  
16 meet the employment needs of disabled youth;  
17 and

18           “(D) other private-sector resources; and

19           “(3) describe how the State will address im-  
20 proving results for students with disabilities in the  
21 areas of greatest need, including the State’s inner-  
22 city and rural areas with the greatest needs as de-  
23 termined by the State in its assessment under sub-  
24 section (b).

1       “(d) REPORTING PROCEDURES.—Each State edu-  
2 cational agency that receives a grant under this part shall  
3 submit a performance report to the Secretary every two  
4 years that—

5           “(1) describes the progress of the State and of  
6 children with disabilities in relation to the perform-  
7 ance goals and performance indicators established  
8 under section 612(a)(16);

9           “(2) analyzes the effectiveness of the State’s  
10 strategies in meeting those goals; and

11           “(3) identifies the strategies that need revision  
12 in order to improve its performance.

13       “(e) PEER REVIEW AND PLAN APPROVAL.—

14           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ap-  
15 prove a State Improvement Plan under this section  
16 if it—

17           “(A) meets the requirements of this sec-  
18 tion; and

19           “(B) holds reasonable promise of enabling  
20 the State to meet its performance goals under  
21 section 612(a)(16).

22           “(2) PEER REVIEW.—(A) In reviewing State  
23 Improvement Plans under this section, the Secretary  
24 shall obtain the advice of non-Federal experts (in-  
25 cluding individuals with disabilities and individuals

1 knowledgeable about the needs of children from mi-  
2 nority backgrounds) on personnel development and  
3 systems change in education, including early inter-  
4 vention.

5 “(B) The peer review process for subsequent  
6 submissions of State Improvement Plans shall in-  
7 clude consideration of the effectiveness of the State’s  
8 improvement efforts, as described in the State’s Im-  
9 provement Plan.

10 “(3) AVAILABLE FUNDS.—The Secretary may  
11 use funds available under this part to pay the ex-  
12 penses and fees of non-Federal peer reviewers.

13 “(f) DURATION OF PLANS.—(1) Each State Improve-  
14 ment Plan under this section shall be for a period deter-  
15 mined by the State, but not longer than four years.

16 “(2) The Secretary may require amendments to a  
17 State’s plan at any time as a result of the Secretary’s com-  
18 pliance reviews under parts B and H of this Act, and shall  
19 not provide further funding under this part to the State  
20 until such amendments are submitted and approved.

21 “(3) If the State makes significant changes in its  
22 plan, it shall submit that information to the Secretary for  
23 approval.

24 “DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

25 “SEC. 625. (a) ALLOCATIONS.—The Secretary shall  
26 allocate funds available to carry out this part for any fiscal

1 year to eligible States on the basis of their relative total  
2 populations of—

3 “(1) all children aged birth through two, if the  
4 State receives a grant under part H of this Act; and

5 “(2) all children aged three through 21 who are  
6 of the same age as children with disabilities for  
7 whom the State ensures the availability of a free ap-  
8 propriate public education under part B of this Act.

9 “(b) MINIMUM STATE ALLOCATIONS.—Notwith-  
10 standing subsection (a), the Secretary shall make a grant  
11 under paragraph (1) of—

12 “(1) at least \$400,000 to each of the 50 States,  
13 the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of  
14 Puerto Rico; and

15 “(2) at least \$40,000 to each outlying area.

16 “(c) OUTLYING AREAS.—The provisions of Public  
17 Law 95–134, permitting the consolidation of grants to the  
18 outlying areas, shall not apply to funds those areas receive  
19 under this section.

20 “MANDATORY USE OF FUNDS FOR PROFESSIONAL  
21 DEVELOPMENT

22 “SEC. 626. (a) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GEN-  
23 ERALLY.—Each State shall use at least 50 percent of the  
24 funds it receives under this part for any fiscal year to en-  
25 sure that there is a sufficient supply of personnel who have  
26 the skills and knowledge necessary to enable children with

1 disabilities to meet developmental goals and, to the maxi-  
2 mum extent possible, those challenging standards that  
3 have been established for all children, including working  
4 with other States on common certification criteria.

5       “(b) EARLY INTERVENTION PROFESSIONAL DEVEL-  
6 OPMENT.—(1) Each State shall use at last 15 percent of  
7 the funds it uses for personnel development under this  
8 part to address personnel development needs in the area  
9 of early intervention.

10       “(2) Funds reserved under paragraph (1) shall be  
11 made available to the lead agency under part H of this  
12 Act or, at the lead agency’s discretion, shall be retained  
13 by the State educational agency.

14                               “AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES

15       “SEC. 627. Authorized activities under this part are  
16 any activities, described in the State Improvement Plan,  
17 that are consistent with the purpose of this part, which  
18 may include the award of subgrants to local educational  
19 agencies and other appropriate entities.

20                               “AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

21       “SEC. 628. For the purpose of carrying out this part,  
22 there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may  
23 be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1997 through  
24 2001.

1           “PART D—PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2                           “FINDINGS

3           “SEC. 631. The Congress finds that—

4                   “(1) in order to serve children with disabilities  
5           appropriately, both general and special education  
6           personnel must be prepared to meet the special  
7           needs of those children, and they must be prepared  
8           in how to work together effectively to meet those  
9           needs;

10                   “(2) in order to assist children with disabilities  
11           to meet developmental goals and, to the maximum  
12           extent possible, those challenging standards that  
13           have been established for all children, personnel  
14           working with children with disabilities must have the  
15           knowledge and skills necessary to address each  
16           child’s individual needs;

17                   “(3) the Federal Government can play a critical  
18           role in assisting States in meeting the need for high-  
19           ly-qualified personnel by—

20                           “(A) supporting models of professional de-  
21           velopment that reflect best practices, including  
22           strategies for recruiting, preparing, and retain-  
23           ing personnel;

1           “(B) supporting the development of, and  
2           dissemination of information about, teaching  
3           standards; and

4           “(C) promoting the coordination and inte-  
5           gration of professional development for teachers  
6           of children with disabilities with professional  
7           development supported under the Goals 2000:  
8           Educate America Act and the Elementary and  
9           Secondary Education Act of 1965;

10          “(4) national activities that promote greater  
11          consistency in certification standards among States  
12          and reciprocity in accepting teaching credentials can  
13          help reduce personnel shortages and improve serv-  
14          ices;

15          “(5) institutions of higher education and indi-  
16          vidual States are reluctant to support professional  
17          development programs for personnel needed to serve  
18          children with low-incidence disabilities because of the  
19          small number of these personnel needed in each  
20          State; therefore, Federal support is needed to ensure  
21          an adequate supply of those personnel; and

22          “(6) Federal support is needed to ensure an  
23          adequate supply of leadership personnel in edu-  
24          cation, related services, and early intervention, in-  
25          cluding teacher-preparation faculty, administrators,

1 researchers, supervisors, and principals who have the  
2 professional development they need to help children  
3 with disabilities—

4 “(A) meet developmental goals and, to the  
5 maximum extent possible, those challenging  
6 standards that have been established for all  
7 children; and

8 “(B) be prepared to lead productive, inde-  
9 pendent adult lives to the maximum extent pos-  
10 sible.

11 “PURPOSES

12 “SEC. 632. The purposes of this part are to help en-  
13 sure that—

14 “(1) personnel responsible for serving children  
15 with disabilities, including general and special edu-  
16 cation personnel, related services personnel, and  
17 early intervention personnel, have the knowledge and  
18 skills necessary to help those children—

19 “(A) meet developmental goals and, to the  
20 maximum extent possible, those challenging  
21 standards that have been established for all  
22 children; and

23 “(B) be prepared to lead productive, inde-  
24 pendent adult lives to the maximum extent pos-  
25 sible;

1           “(2) there are adequate numbers of those per-  
2           sonnel to meet the needs of children with disabilities;  
3           and

4           “(3) the skills and knowledge of personnel re-  
5           sponsible for serving children with disabilities reflect  
6           the best practices as determined through research  
7           and experience, particularly with respect to the in-  
8           clusion of children with disabilities in the regular  
9           education environment.

10                           “NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

11           “SEC. 633. (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-  
12           retary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and  
13           cooperative agreements with, eligible entities to support  
14           activities of national significance that—

15                           “(1) have broad applicability; and

16                           “(2) will help ensure that the purposes of this  
17           part are met.

18           “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out this  
19           section, the Secretary may support any activities that are  
20           consistent with subsection (a), including—

21                           “(1) the development, evaluation, demonstra-  
22           tion, or dissemination of effective personnel prepara-  
23           tion practices for personnel to work with children  
24           with disabilities;

1           “(2) promoting the recruitment or retention of  
2 such personnel, particularly in areas of greatest  
3 need, such as inner-city and rural areas;

4           “(3) institutes that provide professional devel-  
5 opment that addresses the needs of children with  
6 disabilities to—

7                   “(A) teachers or teams of teachers; and

8                   “(B) where appropriate, administrators,  
9 pupil-service personnel, and other staff from in-  
10 dividual schools;

11           “(4) encouraging the development of profes-  
12 sional networks that provide a forum for interaction  
13 among teachers of children with disabilities;

14           “(5) efforts to prepare teachers and other per-  
15 sonnel in the innovative uses and applications of  
16 technology to enhance learning by children with dis-  
17 abilities;

18           “(6) the development, evaluation, and dissemi-  
19 nation of model teaching standards for persons  
20 working with children with disabilities;

21           “(7) the dissemination of information about—

22                   “(A) voluntary national content standards,  
23 State content standards, voluntary national stu-  
24 dent-performance standards, and State student-  
25 performance standards; and

1           “(B) related models of high-quality profes-  
2           sional development;

3           “(8) efforts to prepare teachers and other per-  
4           sonnel in innovative instructional methodologies for  
5           children with disabilities that are designed to meet  
6           the diverse learning needs of individual students;

7           “(9) disseminating models of high-quality pro-  
8           fessional development activities that prepare person-  
9           nel in strategies, techniques, methods, and practices  
10          for meeting the educational needs of individuals with  
11          disabilities from different economic, cultural, and  
12          linguistic backgrounds, in order to ensure that all  
13          students have the opportunity to meet challenging  
14          standards;

15          “(10) promoting the transferability of licensure  
16          and certification of teachers and administrators  
17          among State and local jurisdictions;

18          “(11) supporting the development of voluntary  
19          teaching standards;

20          “(12) developing activities to prepare teachers,  
21          and, where appropriate, paraprofessionals, pupil-  
22          services personnel, and other staff in the collabo-  
23          rative skills needed to appropriately teach children  
24          with disabilities;

1           “(13) developing, evaluating, and disseminating  
2           innovative models for recruitment, induction, reten-  
3           tion, and assessment of new, highly-qualified teach-  
4           ers, especially such teachers from groups that are  
5           underrepresented in the teaching profession;

6           “(14) developing and disseminating models that  
7           prepare teachers with strategies, including behav-  
8           ioral management techniques, for addressing the  
9           conduct of children with disabilities that impedes  
10          their learning and that of others in the classroom;  
11          and

12          “(15) supporting Historically Black Colleges  
13          and Universities and institutions of higher education  
14          with minority enrollments of at least 25 percent for  
15          the purpose of preparing personnel.

16          “PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR PERSONNEL  
17                 SERVING LOW-INCIDENCE POPULATIONS

18          “SEC. 634. (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-  
19          retary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and  
20          cooperative agreements with, eligible entities to meet the  
21          purposes of this part by supporting preparation for per-  
22          sonnel who will provide educational and related services  
23          to children with low-incidence disabilities, and personnel  
24          who will provide early intervention services to infants and  
25          toddlers with disabilities.

1       “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—(1) Individuals who  
2 may be prepared under this section include personnel who  
3 are—

4           “(A) currently prepared in the fields of edu-  
5 cational, related, or early intervention services; and

6           “(B) studying to—

7               “(i) obtain degrees, certification, licensure,  
8 or endorsements in these fields; or

9               “(ii) meet competency requirements in  
10 these fields.

11       “(2) The Secretary may include funds for scholar-  
12 ships, with necessary stipends and allowances, in awards  
13 under this section.

14       “(c) APPLICATIONS.—(1) Any eligible entity that  
15 wishes to receive a grant under this section shall submit  
16 an application to the Secretary at such time, in such man-  
17 ner, and containing such information as the Secretary may  
18 require.

19       “(2) Each such application shall propose to provide  
20 preparation that addresses a significant need, as shown  
21 by letters from one or more States stating that—

22           “(A) they intend to accept successful comple-  
23 tion of the proposed personnel preparation as meet-  
24 ing State personnel standards for serving children

1 with low-incidence disabilities, or for serving infants  
2 and toddlers with disabilities; and

3 “(B) they need personnel in the area or areas  
4 in which the applicant proposes to provide prepara-  
5 tion, as identified in their comprehensive systems of  
6 personnel development under parts B and H, or in  
7 their State Improvement Plan under part C.

8 “(d) SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.—In making  
9 awards under this section, the Secretary—

10 “(1) shall apply such criteria as the Secretary  
11 finds appropriate, including—

12 “(A) the impact of the proposed project in  
13 meeting the need for personnel identified by the  
14 States under subsection (b)(2); and

15 “(B) the extent to which applicants pro-  
16 pose to conduct training that incorporates best  
17 practices in both—

18 “(i) the preparation of personnel; and

19 “(ii) the provision of educational, re-  
20 lated, or early intervention services;

21 “(2) may give preference to applications that  
22 propose to prepare personnel in more than one low-  
23 incidence disability, such as deafness and blindness;

1           “(3) may consider past performance of the ap-  
2           plicant in carrying out previous projects under this  
3           Act; and

4           “(4) may ensure broad geographic coverage of  
5           activities assisted under this section.

6           “(e) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term  
7           ‘low incidence disability’ means—

8           “(1) a visual or hearing impairment, or simulta-  
9           neous visual and hearing impairments;

10           “(2) a significant cognitive impairment; or

11           “(3) any impairment for which a small number  
12           of personnel with highly specialized skills and knowl-  
13           edge are needed in order for children with that im-  
14           pairment to receive early intervention services or a  
15           free appropriate public education.

16                           “LEADERSHIP PERSONNEL

17           “SEC. 635. (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-  
18           retary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and  
19           cooperative agreements with, eligible entities to meet the  
20           purposes of this part by preparing educational, related  
21           service, and early intervention leadership personnel (in-  
22           cluding teacher-preparation faculty, administrators, re-  
23           searchers, supervisors, and principals) so that they are  
24           prepared to help children with disabilities—

1           “(1) meet developmental goals and, to the maximum extent possible, those challenging standards  
2           that have been established for all children; and

3           “(2) be prepared to lead productive, independent adult lives to the maximum extent possible.

4           “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—(1) In carrying out  
5           this section, the Secretary may support any activities that  
6           are consistent with subsection (a), including—

7           “(A) preparation of personnel at the advanced  
8           graduate, doctoral, or post-doctoral levels; and

9           “(B) professional development of leadership  
10           personnel.

11           “(2) The Secretary may include funds for scholarships, with necessary stipends and allowances, in awards  
12           under this section.

13           “(c) PREFERENCES.—In making awards under this  
14           section, the Secretary—

15           “(1) shall give preference to projects at institutions of higher education that have successfully integrated the professional development of general and special education personnel;  
16           “(2) may give preference to projects at institutions of higher education that—

17           “(1) shall give preference to projects at institutions of higher education that have successfully integrated the professional development of general and special education personnel;  
18           “(2) may give preference to projects at institutions of higher education that—

1           “(A) are making progress toward integrat-  
2           ing the professional development of general and  
3           special education personnel; or

4           “(B) have achieved coordination of their  
5           professional development programs for general  
6           and special education personnel; and

7           “(3) shall give preference to applicants that are  
8           successfully recruiting and preparing individuals  
9           with disabilities and individuals from groups that  
10          are underrepresented in education leadership posi-  
11          tions.

12                           “SERVICE OBLIGATION

13          “SEC. 636. Each application for funds under sections  
14          634 and 635 shall include an assurance that the applicant  
15          will ensure that individuals who are prepared under the  
16          proposed project will subsequently perform work related  
17          to their preparation or repay all or part of the cost of  
18          that preparation.

19                           “AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

20          “SEC. 637. For the purpose of carrying out this part,  
21          there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may  
22          be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1997 through  
23          2001.

24                           “PART E—RESEARCH TO PRACTICE

25                                           “FINDINGS

26          “SEC. 641. FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

1           “(1) as a result of more than 20 years of Fed-  
2           eral support for research, demonstrations, and relat-  
3           ed activities, there is an important knowledge base  
4           for enhancing educational opportunities for children  
5           with disabilities, and research in such areas as in-  
6           structional and behavioral management interven-  
7           tions, learning strategies, and teaching has led to  
8           significant improvements in professional practice  
9           and educational results for children with disabilities;

10           “(2) Federal support for a coordinated and  
11           high-quality program of research, demonstrations,  
12           dissemination, and technical assistance is essential  
13           to enabling State and local educational agencies to  
14           improve educational results for children with disabil-  
15           ities;

16           “(3) States, local educational agencies, institu-  
17           tions of higher education, schools, and Indian tribes,  
18           as well as parents of children with disabilities, need  
19           information that is based on current research, that  
20           is easily accessible, and that is integrated with infor-  
21           mation that—

22                   “(A) helps administrators and teachers to  
23                   serve all children;

24                   “(B) helps families to improve educational  
25                   results for their children; and



1           “(1) identify and produce knowledge to improve  
2 early intervention and educational opportunities for  
3 children with disabilities so that they can—

4           “(A) meet developmental goals and, to the  
5 maximum extent possible, those challenging  
6 standards that have been established for all  
7 children; and

8           “(B) be prepared to lead productive, inde-  
9 pendent adult lives to the maximum extent pos-  
10 sible;

11           “(2) advance the use of knowledge by adminis-  
12 trators, teachers, parents, and others who work with  
13 children with disabilities, as well as by individuals  
14 with disabilities;

15           “(3) identify, produce, and promote the use of  
16 knowledge to address the special needs of children  
17 with a high likelihood of needing special education  
18 and related services in order to reduce, through  
19 early intervention, the need for special education  
20 services later in life; and

21           “(4) assist institutions of higher education to  
22 appropriately serve individuals with disabilities, in-  
23 cluding individuals who are deaf, in postsecondary  
24 programs.

1           “RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES

2           “SEC. 643. The Secretary may make grants to, and  
3 enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with, eli-  
4 gible entities to support activities that will help meet the  
5 purposes of this part, including—

6           “(1) research and development projects that ad-  
7 vance knowledge about—

8           “(A) the developmental and learning char-  
9 acteristics of children with disabilities that will  
10 improve the design and effectiveness of inter-  
11 ventions and instruction;

12           “(B) assessment techniques, instruments  
13 (including tests, inventories, and scales), and  
14 strategies for measuring the progress of chil-  
15 dren with disabilities in meeting developmental  
16 goals and, to the maximum extent possible,  
17 those challenging standards that have been es-  
18 tablished for all children;

19           “(C) identifying and evaluating children  
20 with disabilities for the purpose of determin-  
21 ing—

22           “(i) their eligibility for services under  
23 this Act; and

1           “(ii) the appropriate education, relat-  
2           ed services, and early intervention services  
3           to be provided to eligible children;

4           “(D) identifying organizational, resource,  
5           and other conditions necessary for effective pro-  
6           fessional practice;

7           “(E) the coordination of education with  
8           health and social services in order to improve  
9           educational results for children with disabilities;

10          “(F) helping families improve educational  
11          results for their children; and

12          “(G) strategies to address the behavior of  
13          children with disabilities that impedes their  
14          learning or that of others;

15          “(2) large-scale longitudinal studies designed to  
16          produce information on the long-term impact of  
17          early intervention and education on results for indi-  
18          viduals with disabilities;

19          “(3) model demonstration projects to apply and  
20          field-test research findings in typical service settings  
21          to determine the applicability, usability, effective-  
22          ness, and general applicability of such research find-  
23          ings in such areas as improving instructional meth-  
24          ods, curricula, and instructional tools such as text-  
25          books, media, and materials;

1           “(4) projects to assist institutions of higher  
2 education in appropriately serving their students  
3 with disabilities, including deaf students, such as  
4 demonstrating and disseminating effective strategies  
5 to address the needs of those students;

6           “(5) outreach projects to support the replica-  
7 tion of proven strategies and practices that will im-  
8 prove educational, related, and early intervention  
9 services for children with disabilities;

10           “(6) assisting researchers, program developers,  
11 and others to produce, evaluate, and make available  
12 information that will be useful to a variety of audi-  
13 ences seeking to improve educational results for chil-  
14 dren with disabilities;

15           “(7) helping apply research and other knowl-  
16 edge to improve educational results for children with  
17 disabilities by—

18                   “(A) identifying useful research and other  
19 products;

20                   “(B) ensuring that these products are in  
21 appropriate formats for distribution to adminis-  
22 trators, teachers, parents, and individuals with  
23 disabilities; and

24                   “(C) making those products available  
25 through clearinghouses, libraries, electronic net-

1 works, parent training projects, and other infor-  
2 mation sources;

3 “(8) integrating educational, related, transi-  
4 tional, and early intervention service information re-  
5 lated to children with disabilities into clearinghouses,  
6 libraries, electronic networks, and other information  
7 and communication resources that are available to  
8 address the needs of all children, not just children  
9 with disabilities;

10 “(9) clearinghouse activities to address the in-  
11 formation needs of administrators, teachers, parents,  
12 and others who work with individuals with disabil-  
13 ities as well as the information needs of individuals  
14 with disabilities themselves;

15 “(10) supplemental funding for the comprehen-  
16 sive technical assistance centers authorized under  
17 part A of title XIII of the Elementary and Second-  
18 ary Education Act of 1965 to help ensure that those  
19 centers effectively address the needs of children with  
20 disabilities;

21 “(11) special education and early intervention  
22 regional resource centers to provide technical assist-  
23 ance to States in—

1           “(A) linking to other technical assistance  
2 resources, including special and general edu-  
3 cation resources;

4           “(B) gaining access to information, includ-  
5 ing information on research and best practices;  
6 and

7           “(C) developing, implementing, and evalu-  
8 ating their State Improvement Plans under part  
9 C of this Act; and

10          “(12) technical assistance to State educational  
11 agencies, State lead agencies for serving infants and  
12 toddlers with disabilities under part H, and other or-  
13 ganizations and agencies that play a critical role in  
14 serving children with disabilities in such areas as—

15           “(A) providing for the participation of chil-  
16 dren with disabilities in State and local assess-  
17 ments;

18           “(B) the financing of special education;

19           “(C) the coordination of education, health,  
20 and social services; and

21           “(D) promoting safe and disciplined  
22 schools.

23          “STUDIES AND EVALUATIONS; ANNUAL REPORT

24          “SEC. 644. (a) STUDIES AND EVALUATIONS.—The  
25 Secretary may, directly or through grants to, and con-  
26 tracts and cooperative agreements with, eligible entities—

1           “(1) assess progress in the implementation of  
2 this Act;

3           “(2) assess, through performance indicators  
4 and other means, the impact and effectiveness of  
5 State and local efforts, and efforts by the Secretary  
6 of the Interior, to—

7                   “(A) provide a free appropriate public edu-  
8 cation to children with disabilities; and

9                   “(B) provide early intervention services to  
10 infant and toddlers with disabilities and those  
11 at risk for developmental delay;

12           “(3) assess the placement of children with dis-  
13 abilities, by disability;

14           “(4) provide Congress with information relevant  
15 to policy-making and to provide State, local, and  
16 Federal agencies, including the Department of the  
17 Interior, with information relevant to program man-  
18 agement, administration, service delivery, and effec-  
19 tiveness with respect to education and early inter-  
20 vention services; and

21           “(5) conduct the national assessment described  
22 in section 645.

23           “(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall report  
24 annually to the Congress on—

1           “(1) the results of activities conducted under  
2 subsection (a);

3           “(2) an analysis and summary of the data re-  
4 ported by the States and the Secretary of the Inte-  
5 rior under section 618; and

6           “(3) the findings and determinations resulting  
7 from reviews of State implementation of this Act.

8                           “NATIONAL ASSESSMENT

9           “SEC. 645. (a) PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENT.—The  
10 Secretary shall carry out a national assessment of the im-  
11 plementation of this Act in order to—

12           “(1) determine the impact of this Act on help-  
13 ing individuals with disabilities—

14                           “(A) meet developmental goals and, to the  
15 maximum extent possible, those challenging  
16 standards that have been established for all  
17 children; and

18                           “(B) be prepared to lead productive, inde-  
19 pendent adult lives to the maximum extent pos-  
20 sible;

21           “(2) provide information to Congress, the Exec-  
22 utive Branch, the States, local educational agencies,  
23 and others on how to more effectively implement the  
24 Act; and

1           “(3) provide Congress and the Executive  
2           Branch information useful in developing legislation  
3           to more effectively meet the purposes of this Act.

4           “(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall plan, re-  
5           view, and conduct the national assessment in consultation  
6           with researchers, State practitioners, local practitioners,  
7           parents of children with disabilities, individuals with dis-  
8           abilities, and other appropriate individuals.

9           “(c) SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT.—(1) The national as-  
10          sessment shall examine how well schools, local educational  
11          agencies, and States, in carrying out parts B, C, and H,  
12          are—

13                 “(A) helping children served under this Act, in-  
14                 cluding children from minority backgrounds and  
15                 children with limited English proficiency—

16                         “(i) meet developmental goals and, to the  
17                         maximum extent possible, those challenging  
18                         standards that have been established for all  
19                         children; and

20                         “(ii) be prepared to lead productive, inde-  
21                         pendent adult lives to the maximum extent pos-  
22                         sible;

23                 “(B) providing for the participation of children  
24                 with disabilities in the general education curriculum;

1           “(C) helping children with disabilities make  
2 successful transitions from—

3           “(i) early intervention services to preschool  
4 education;

5           “(ii) preschool education to elementary  
6 school; and

7           “(iii) secondary school to adult life;

8           “(D) providing for the participation of children  
9 with disabilities in State and district-wide assess-  
10 ments;

11           “(E) placing and serving children with disabil-  
12 ities, including children from minority backgrounds  
13 and children with limited English proficiency, in the  
14 least restrictive environment appropriate;

15           “(F) preventing children with disabilities, espe-  
16 cially children with emotional disturbances and spe-  
17 cific learning disabilities, from dropping out of  
18 school;

19           “(G) addressing the need for personnel with the  
20 knowledge and skills necessary to help children with  
21 disabilities reach developmental goals and challeng-  
22 ing standards;

23           “(H) coordinating services provided under this  
24 Act with each other, with other educational and  
25 pupil services (including preschool services), and

1 with health and social services funded from other  
2 sources;

3 “(I) affording parents of children served under  
4 this Act meaningful opportunities to participate in  
5 the education of their children; and

6 “(J) resolving disagreements between education  
7 personnel and parents through activities such as me-  
8 diation.

9 “(2) The assessment shall also examine how effective  
10 the activities authorized under parts D through G of this  
11 Act have been in achieving their purposes.

12 “(d) SOURCES OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary  
13 shall use information gathered from a variety of sources,  
14 including the National Assessment of Educational  
15 Progress, State evaluations, and available research stud-  
16 ies, in carrying out this section.

17 “(e) INTERIM AND FINAL REPORTS.—The Secretary  
18 shall submit to the President and the appropriate commit-  
19 tees of the Congress—

20 “(1) an interim report that summarizes the pre-  
21 liminary findings of the assessment by October 1,  
22 1998; and

23 “(2) a final report of the findings of the assess-  
24 ment by October 1, 2000.

1 “AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; RESERVATION  
2 FOR STUDIES AND EVALUATIONS

3 “SEC. 646. (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-  
4 TIONS.—For the purpose of carrying out this part, there  
5 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be  
6 necessary for each of the fiscal years 1997 through 2001.

7 “(b) RESERVATION FOR STUDIES AND EVALUA-  
8 TIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act,  
9 the Secretary may reserve, in addition to any funds appro-  
10 priated under subsection (a), up to one-half of one percent  
11 of the amount appropriated for each fiscal year for section  
12 611 and for part H to carry out sections 644 and 645  
13 of this part.

14 “PART F—PARENT TRAINING AND INFORMATION

15 “FINDINGS

16 “SEC. 651. The Congress finds that—

17 “(1) parental involvement in the education of  
18 their children improves the emotional well-being of  
19 families, enhances parenting skills, and improves  
20 educational results for children with disabilities, ena-  
21 bling them to lead productive, independent adult  
22 lives to the maximum extent possible;

23 “(2) parents of children with disabilities need  
24 training to develop the skills they need to participate  
25 effectively in the education of their children, and to

1 understand the nature of their children’s disabilities  
2 and their need for accommodations and special edu-  
3 cation and related services in order to achieve their  
4 educational goals;

5 “(3) parents of children with disabilities need  
6 information on their rights and protections under  
7 this Act to ensure improved educational results;

8 “(4) parents of children with disabilities who  
9 have limited access to services and supports due to  
10 economic, cultural, or linguistic barriers have the  
11 greatest need for community-based approaches to  
12 providing parent training and information;

13 “(5) parental involvement in school-site reform  
14 initiatives, such as under the Goals 2000: Educate  
15 America Act, leads to improved educational results  
16 for their children; and

17 “(6) students with disabilities need training so  
18 that they can assume the rights of their parents  
19 under part B of this Act when they reach the age  
20 of majority, if the State provides for the transfer of  
21 those rights under section 615(j).

22 “PURPOSES

23 “SEC. 652. The purposes of this part are to ensure  
24 that—

25 “(1) parents of children with disabilities have  
26 training and information provided in a manner that

1 is meaningful and accessible to enable them to par-  
2 ticipate effectively in helping their children—

3 “(A) meet developmental goals and, to the  
4 maximum extent possible, those challenging  
5 standards that have been established for all  
6 children; and

7 “(B) be prepared to lead productive, inde-  
8 pendent adult lives to the maximum extent pos-  
9 sible; and

10 “(2) students with disabilities understand their  
11 rights and responsibilities under part B of this Act  
12 on reaching the age of majority, if the State pro-  
13 vides for the transfer of parental rights under sec-  
14 tion 615(j) of that part.

15 “PARENT TRAINING AND INFORMATION CENTERS

16 “SEC. 653. (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-  
17 retary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and  
18 cooperative agreements with, parent organizations to sup-  
19 port parent training and information centers to carry out  
20 the purposes of this part.

21 “(b) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—Each parent training  
22 and information center receiving assistance under this sec-  
23 tion shall—

24 “(1) provide training and information that  
25 meets the training and information needs of parents

1 of children with disabilities living in the area to be  
2 served by the award;

3 “(2) serve the parents of children with the full  
4 range of disabilities;

5 “(3) assist parents to—

6 “(A) better understand the nature of their  
7 children’s disabilities and their educational and  
8 developmental needs;

9 “(B) communicate effectively with early  
10 intervention personnel, special and regular edu-  
11 cators, administrators, related services person-  
12 nel, and other relevant professionals;

13 “(C) participate in decision-making proc-  
14 esses, including the development of individual-  
15 ized education programs under part B of this  
16 Act and individualized family service plans  
17 under part H of this Act for children with dis-  
18 abilities;

19 “(D) obtain appropriate information about  
20 the range of options, programs, services, and  
21 resources available at the national, State, and  
22 local levels to assist children with disabilities  
23 and their families;

24 “(E) understand the provisions for the  
25 education of, and for early intervention services

1 for, children with disabilities under this Act;  
2 and

3 “(F) participate in school reform activities;

4 “(4) assist students with disabilities to under-  
5 stand their rights and responsibilities under section  
6 615(j) of this Act on reaching the age of majority,  
7 if the State provides for the transfer of parental  
8 rights to the student under that section;

9 “(5) report to the Secretary on—

10 “(A) the number of parents to whom it  
11 provided information and training; and

12 “(B) the effectiveness of strategies used to  
13 reach and serve parents, including low-income  
14 parents from inner-city and rural areas, parents  
15 of children with limited English proficiency, and  
16 parents with disabilities; and

17 “(6) establish cooperative partnerships with the  
18 community parent resource centers funded under  
19 section 654.

20 “(c) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Each applica-  
21 tion for assistance under this section shall identify with  
22 specificity the special efforts that the applicant will under-  
23 take to—

24 “(1) ensure that the needs of low-income par-  
25 ents from inner-city and rural areas, parents of chil-

1       dren with limited English proficiency, and parents  
2       with disabilities in the area to be served are effec-  
3       tively met; and

4               “(2) work with community-based organizations.

5       “(d) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—(1)(A) The Sec-  
6       retary shall allocate the funds available to carry out this  
7       section for each fiscal year for awards in each State based  
8       on the State’s population from birth through age 21, ex-  
9       cept that—

10              “(i) each of the 50 States, the District of Co-  
11       lumbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall  
12       be allocated at least \$150,000 or the amount that it  
13       was allocated under this section for the previous fis-  
14       cal year, whichever is greater; and

15              “(ii) each outlying area shall be allocated at  
16       least \$50,000 or the amount that it was allocated  
17       under this section for the previous fiscal year, which-  
18       ever is greater.

19       “(B) If the sums available to make allocations under  
20       subparagraph (A) are insufficient to make the minimum  
21       allocations described in that subparagraph, the Secretary  
22       shall ratably reduce those allocations.

23       “(C) If additional funds become available to make al-  
24       locations under subparagraph (A), the allocations that

1 were reduced under subparagraph (B) shall be increased  
2 on the same basis as they were reduced.

3 “(2) The Secretary shall make at least one award in  
4 each State from which the Secretary receives an applica-  
5 tion of sufficient quality to warrant approval.

6 “(3) The Secretary may select applications in a man-  
7 ner that ensures the most effective coverage of parents,  
8 including parents in urban and rural areas, in the affected  
9 State.

10 “(4) If the Secretary determines that the applications  
11 received from a State do not warrant the award of the  
12 State’s entire allocation under paragraph (1), the Sec-  
13 retary may use all or part of that allocation, as the case  
14 may be—

15 “(A) to increase the number or amount of  
16 awards in other States under this section; or

17 “(B) for other activities, authorized by this part  
18 or other provisions of this Act, to provide parents  
19 with training and information or to provide technical  
20 assistance to those providing that training and infor-  
21 mation.

22 “COMMUNITY PARENT RESOURCE CENTERS

23 “SEC. 654. (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-  
24 retary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and  
25 cooperative agreements with, local parent organizations to  
26 support parent training and information centers that will

1 help ensure that underserved parents of children with dis-  
2 abilities, including low-income parents, parents of children  
3 with limited English proficiency, and parents with disabili-  
4 ties, have the training and information they need to en-  
5 able them to participate effectively in helping their chil-  
6 dren with disabilities—

7           “(1) meet developmental goals and, to the max-  
8 imum extent possible, those challenging standards  
9 that have been established for all children; and

10           “(2) be prepared to lead productive, independ-  
11 ent adult lives to the maximum extent possible.

12           “(b) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—Each parent training  
13 and information center assisted under this section shall—

14           “(1) provide training and information that  
15 meets the training and information needs of parents  
16 of children with disabilities proposed to be served by  
17 the award;

18           “(2) carry out the activities required of parent  
19 training and information centers under paragraphs  
20 (2) through (5) of section 653(b);

21           “(3) establish cooperative partnerships with the  
22 parent training and information centers funded  
23 under section 653; and

1           “(4) be designed to meet the specific needs of  
2 families who experience significant isolation from  
3 available sources of information and support.

4                           “TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

5           “SEC. 655. (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-  
6 retary may provide technical assistance for developing, as-  
7 sisting, and coordinating parent training and information  
8 programs under this part.

9           “(b) PRIORITIES.—The Secretary may focus tech-  
10 nical assistance under this section on areas such as—

11                   “(1) coordinating parent training efforts;

12                   “(2) providing or helping to disseminate infor-  
13 mation to projects;

14                   “(3) assisting centers funded under this part in  
15 evaluating themselves;

16                   “(4) promoting the use of technology;

17                   “(5) reaching underserved populations;

18                   “(6) early childhood services;

19                   “(7) assistive technology;

20                   “(8) including children with disabilities in gen-  
21 eral education programs;

22                   “(9) transition from—

23                           “(A) early intervention services to pre-  
24 school;

25                           “(B) preschool to school; or

1           “(C) secondary school to postsecondary en-  
2           vironments; and

3           “(10) alternative methods of dispute resolution.

4                           “DEFINITIONS

5           “SEC. 656. (a) PARENT ORGANIZATION.—As used in  
6 this part, the term ‘parent organization’ means a private  
7 nonprofit organization (but not including an institution of  
8 higher education) that either—

9           “(1) has a board of directors—

10                   “(A) the majority of whom are parents of  
11 children with disabilities;

12                   “(B) that includes—

13                           “(i) individuals working in the fields  
14 of special education, related services, and  
15 early intervention; and

16                           “(ii) individuals with disabilities; and

17                   “(C) the parent and professional members  
18 of which are broadly representative of the popu-  
19 lation to be served; or

20           “(2) represents the interests of individuals with  
21 disabilities and has established a special governing  
22 committee to administer the proposed project that  
23 meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A), (B),  
24 and (C) of paragraph (1).

25           “(b) LOCAL PARENT ORGANIZATION.—As used in  
26 this part, the term ‘local parent organization’ means a

1 parent organization, as defined in subsection (a), that ei-  
2 ther—

3 “(1) has a board of directors the majority of  
4 whom are from the community to be served by the  
5 proposed project; or

6 “(2)(A) has the interests of individuals with  
7 disabilities from that community as a part of its  
8 mission; and

9 “(B) has a special governing committee to  
10 administer the project, a majority of the mem-  
11 bers of which are from that community.

12 “AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

13 “SEC. 657. (a) GENERAL.—For the purpose of carry-  
14 ing out this part, there are authorized to be appropriated  
15 such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years  
16 1997 through 2001.

17 “(b) COMMUNITY PARENT RESOURCE CENTERS.—  
18 For any fiscal year for which the amount appropriated for  
19 this part is at least \$13,535,000, the Secretary shall make  
20 at least five awards for community parent resource centers  
21 under section 654.

22 “PART G—TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND  
23 EDUCATIONAL MEDIA SERVICES

24 “FINDINGS

25 “SEC. 661. The Congress finds that—



1 early intervention and education services for children  
2 with disabilities so that they can—

3 “(A) meet developmental goals and, to the  
4 maximum extent possible, those challenging  
5 standards that have been established for all  
6 children; and

7 “(B) be prepared to lead productive, inde-  
8 pendent adult lives to the maximum extent pos-  
9 sible;

10 “(2) address the educational needs and promote  
11 the general welfare of deaf and hard-of-hearing indi-  
12 viduals through media; and

13 “(3) address the educational needs of visually  
14 impaired (including blind) and print-disabled individ-  
15 uals and the general welfare of visually impaired in-  
16 dividuals through media.

17 “TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

18 “SEC. 663. (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-  
19 retary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and  
20 cooperative agreements with, eligible entities to support  
21 activities that will carry out the purpose of this part stated  
22 in section 662(1).

23 “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out this  
24 section, the Secretary may support any activities that are  
25 consistent with subsection (a), including—

1           “(1) conducting research and development on  
2 the use of innovative and emerging technologies for  
3 children with disabilities;

4           “(2) promoting the use of innovative and  
5 emerging technologies for children with disabilities  
6 by improving and expanding the transfer of tech-  
7 nology from research and development to practice;

8           “(3) conducting research on, and developing,  
9 assistive and instructional technologies to improve  
10 learning;

11           “(4) conducting research on effective models of  
12 professional development and school policies that  
13 support the use of technology in the school, the  
14 home, the workplace, and community settings;

15           “(5) providing technical assistance to recipients  
16 under this section in the development of accessible,  
17 effective, and usable products;

18           “(6) communicating information on—

19               “(A) available technology; and

20               “(B) models described in paragraph (4);

21           “(7) conducting research on captioning or video  
22 description; and

23           “(8) supporting research and development of  
24 technology with universal design features, so that it

1 is accessible to individuals with disabilities without  
2 further modification or adaptation.

3 “EDUCATIONAL MEDIA SERVICES

4 “SEC. 664. (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-  
5 retary may make grants to, and enter into contracts and  
6 cooperative agreements with, eligible entities to support  
7 the use of media to—

8 “(1) address the educational needs and promote  
9 the general welfare of deaf and hard-of-hearing indi-  
10 viduals through media; and

11 “(2) address the educational needs of visually  
12 impaired (including blind) and print-disabled individ-  
13 uals and the general welfare of visually impaired in-  
14 dividuals through media.

15 “(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out this  
16 section, the Secretary may support any activities that are  
17 consistent with subsection (a), including—

18 “(1) video description, open captioning, or  
19 closed captioning of television programs, videos, or  
20 educational materials;

21 “(2) distributing captioned and described videos  
22 or educational materials;

23 “(3) recording free educational materials, in-  
24 cluding textbooks, for visually impaired and print-  
25 disabled students in elementary, secondary, post-  
26 secondary, and graduate schools; and



1 (C) by designating “means individuals”  
2 and all that follows through the end of the first  
3 sentence thereof as subparagraph (A);

4 (D) by designating the second sentence  
5 thereof as subparagraph (B);

6 (E) in subparagraph (A)(ii), as redesignated,  
7 by striking out the period following “de-  
8 velopmental delay” and inserting in lieu thereof  
9 a semicolon and “and”; and

10 (F) by amending subparagraph (B), as  
11 designated by subparagraph (D), to read as fol-  
12 lows:

13 “(B) may also include, at a State’s discre-  
14 tion, at-risk infants and toddlers, as defined in  
15 paragraph (5).”; and

16 (2) by adding at the end thereof a new para-  
17 graph (5) to read as follows:

18 “(5) The term ‘at-risk infants and toddlers’  
19 means individuals from birth through age two who  
20 are at risk of having substantial developmental  
21 delays if early intervention services are not pro-  
22 vided.”.

23 GENERAL AUTHORITY

24 SEC. 402. Section 673 of the IDEA is amended by  
25 striking out “develop” and inserting in lieu thereof “im-  
26 plement”.

## ELIGIBILITY

1  
2 SEC. 403. (a) The heading for section 674 of the  
3 IDEA is amended by striking out “GENERAL”.

4 (b) Section 674 of the IDEA is further amended by  
5 striking out “that the State” and all that follows through  
6 the end thereof and inserting in lieu thereof “that the  
7 State—

8 “(A) has adopted a policy that appropriate  
9 early intervention services are available to all infants  
10 and toddlers in the State who are eligible under this  
11 part and their families; and

12 “(B) has in effect the statewide system required  
13 by section 675.”.

## CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY

14  
15 SEC. 404. (a) REPEAL OF SECTION 675.—Section  
16 675 of the IDEA is repealed.

17 (b) REDESIGNATION OF SECTIONS.—Sections 676  
18 and 677 of the IDEA are redesignated as sections 675  
19 and 676, respectively.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR STATEWIDE SYSTEM

20  
21 SEC. 405. Subsection (b) of section 675 of the IDEA,  
22 as redesignated by section 404(b), is amended—

23 (1) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-  
24 lows:

25 “(2) a statement of—

1           “(A) which infants and toddlers will be  
2 served under section 676; and

3           “(B) which infants and toddlers will be  
4 served under section 677,”;

5           (2) in paragraph (3)—

6           (A) by striking out “to appropriately assist  
7 in the development of the infant or toddler with  
8 a disability”;

9           (B) by designating the remaining text as  
10 subparagraph (A);

11           (C) by inserting “and” after the comma at  
12 the end thereof; and

13           (D) by adding at the end thereof a new  
14 subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

15           “(B) a timely assessment of each at-risk  
16 infant and toddler to be served under section  
17 677,”;

18           (3) in paragraph (4)—

19           (A) by inserting “(A)” after the paragraph  
20 number;

21           (B) by striking out “section 677” and in-  
22 serting in lieu thereof “section 676”;

23           (C) by adding “and” after the comma at  
24 the end thereof; and

1 (D) by adding at the end thereof a new  
2 subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

3 “(B) for each at-risk infant and toddler to  
4 be served under section 677, a statement of  
5 services to be provided, including service coordi-  
6 nation, in accordance with that section,”;

7 (4) in paragraph (6)—

8 (A) by striking out “identification of in-  
9 fants and toddlers with disabilities” and insert-  
10 ing in lieu thereof “identification of infants and  
11 toddlers served under this part”; and

12 (B) by striking out “parents of infants  
13 with disabilities” and inserting in lieu thereof  
14 “parents of infants and toddlers”;

15 (5) in paragraph (8)—

16 (A) by striking out “section 613(a)(3) and  
17 inserting in lieu thereof “section 612(a)(14) (or  
18 with the personnel development requirements  
19 for State Improvement Plans under section  
20 624, as amended by section 302 of the Individ-  
21 uals with Disabilities Education Act Amend-  
22 ment of 1995)”;

23 (B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting  
24 “and innercity” after “rural”; and

25 (C) in subparagraph (D)—

1 (i) by striking out “with disabilities”  
2 and inserting in lieu thereof “served under  
3 this part”; and

4 (ii) by striking out “a preschool pro-  
5 gram under section 619 of part B.” and  
6 inserting in lieu thereof “preschool or  
7 other services,”;

8 (6) in paragraph (9)(D), by striking out “in-  
9 fants and toddlers with disabilities and their fami-  
10 lies” and inserting in lieu thereof “infants and tod-  
11 dlers and their families under this part”;

12 (7) in paragraph (13)—

13 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking out  
14 “and” at the end thereof and inserting in lieu  
15 thereof “except that”; and

16 (B) by adding at the end thereof a new  
17 subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

18 “(C) nothing in this Act, including sub-  
19 paragraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph, pro-  
20 hibits the use of paraprofessionals who are ap-  
21 propriately trained and supervised, in meeting  
22 the requirements of this part,”;

23 (8) by amending paragraph (14) to read as fol-  
24 lows:

1 “(14) a system for compiling data requested by  
2 the Secretary under section 618 that relates to this  
3 part, and”;

4 (9) by adding at the end thereof a new para-  
5 graph (15) to read as follows:

6 “(15) a State Interagency Coordinating Council  
7 that meets the requirements of section 682.”;

8 (10) by redesignating paragraph (13) as para-  
9 graph (9); and

10 (11) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through  
11 (12) as paragraphs (10) through (13), respectively.

12 INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY SERVICE PLANS

13 SEC. 406. Subsection (d) of section 676 of the IDEA,  
14 as redesignated by section 404(b), is amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking out “accept-  
16 able”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (8)—

18 (A) by striking out “supporting” and in-  
19 serting in lieu thereof “to support”; and

20 (B) by striking out “services provided”  
21 and all that follows through “appropriate” and  
22 inserting in lieu thereof “preschool or other ap-  
23 propriate services”.

1 STATEMENT OF SERVICES FOR AT-RISK INFANTS AND  
2 TODDLERS

3 SEC. 407. Part H of the IDEA is further amended  
4 by inserting after section 676, as redesignated by section  
5 404(b), a new section 677 to read as follows:

6 “STATEMENT OF SERVICES FOR AT-RISK INFANTS AND  
7 TODDLERS

8 “SEC. 677. (a) APPLICABILITY; ASSESSMENT AND  
9 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.—Any State that, in accord-  
10 ance with section 678(a)(4), elects to provide services  
11 under this part to at-risk infants and toddlers in accord-  
12 ance with this section shall provide each at-risk infant and  
13 toddler, and the infant’s or toddler’s family—

14 “(1) a timely assessment of the unique  
15 strengths and needs of the infant or toddler;

16 “(2) at the discretion of the family, a timely  
17 family-directed assessment of the resources, prior-  
18 ities, and concerns of the family, including the iden-  
19 tification of supports and services needed to enhance  
20 the family’s capacity to meet the infant’s or tod-  
21 dler’s developmental needs; and

22 “(3) a written statement of services to be pro-  
23 vided the infant or toddler through programs as-  
24 sisted under this part which, at a minimum, shall in-  
25 clude service coordination.

1       “(b) DEVELOPMENT OF STATEMENT OF SERVICES.—

2       (1) The child’s service coordinator, together with the par-  
3       ents of the infant or toddler, and others as appropriate,  
4       shall develop the statement of services described in sub-  
5       section (a)(3) within a reasonable time after the assess-  
6       ments required by subsections (a) (1) and (2) are com-  
7       pleted.

8       “(2) If the parent consents, services may be provided  
9       before the statement of services is completed.

10       “(c) CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENT OF SERV-  
11       ICES.—The statement of services for each at-risk infant  
12       and toddler shall contain—

13               “(1) a statement of the infant’s or toddler’s  
14       present levels of development based on objective cri-  
15       teria;

16               “(2) at the discretion of the family, a statement  
17       of the family’s resources, priorities, and concerns re-  
18       lating to enhancing the development of the infant or  
19       toddler;

20               “(3) a statement of services needed by the in-  
21       fant or toddler and the family, including a statement  
22       of the service coordination and any other early inter-  
23       vention services to be provided under this part and  
24       referrals to, or linkages with, other public or private  
25       resources;

1           “(4) the name of the service coordinator; and

2           “(5) in the case of a toddler, the steps to be  
3 taken to support transition to preschool or other  
4 services, as appropriate.

5           “(d) PERIODIC REVIEW.—(1) The child’s service co-  
6 ordinator, together with the parents of the infant or tod-  
7 dler, and others as appropriate, shall review (and revise,  
8 as appropriate) the statement of services—

9           “(A) every six months;

10          “(B) whenever requested by the family; or

11          “(C) whenever a review would be appropriate  
12 based on the needs of the infant or toddler and the  
13 family.

14          “(2) The review shall determine whether—

15          “(A) the infant or toddler is an infant or tod-  
16 dler with a disability; and

17          “(B) whether a reassessment of the child or  
18 family is needed.

19          “(e) PARENTAL CONSENT.—(1) The contents of the  
20 statement of services shall be fully explained to the par-  
21 ents in their native language or other mode of communica-  
22 tion.

23          “(2) Informed written consent from the parents shall  
24 be obtained before any early intervention services are pro-  
25 vided under this part.

1       “(3) If the parents do not consent to the provision  
2 of a particular early intervention service, only the services  
3 to which they have consented shall be provided.”.

4               STATE APPLICATIONS AND ASSURANCES

5       SEC. 408. (a) Section 678(a) of the IDEA is amend-  
6 ed—

7               (1) in paragraph (3), by adding after the  
8 comma at the end thereof “including—

9                       “(A) information demonstrating to the  
10 Secretary’s satisfaction that the State has in ef-  
11 fect the statewide system required by section  
12 675; and

13                       “(B) a description of services to be pro-  
14 vided to infants and toddlers with disabilities  
15 and their families under this part.”;

16               (2) by amending paragraph (4) to read as fol-  
17 lows:

18                       “(4)(A) a statement of whether the State will  
19 serve at-risk infants and toddlers as infants and tod-  
20 dlers with disabilities; and

21                       “(B) if not, but if it will serve at-risk infants  
22 and toddlers under section 677—

23                               “(i) a description of the services it will pro-  
24 vide;

1           “(ii) an assurance that, at a minimum, the  
2 State will provide service coordination for those  
3 infants and toddlers; and

4           “(iii) an assurance that the parents of each  
5 such infant and toddler will be provided a  
6 statement of services in accordance with section  
7 677,”; and

8           (3) by amending paragraph (8) to read as fol-  
9 lows:

10           “(8) a description of the policies and procedures  
11 to be used—

12           “(A) to ensure a smooth transition for tod-  
13 dlers receiving early intervention services under  
14 this part to preschool or other appropriate serv-  
15 ices, including a description of—

16           “(i) how the families of toddlers will  
17 be included in the transition plans required  
18 by subparagraph (C); and

19           “(ii) how the lead agency under this  
20 part will—

21           “(I) notify the local education  
22 agency in which the toddler resides;

23           “(II) with the approval of the  
24 family, convene a conference among  
25 the lead agency, the family, and the

1 local educational agency at least 90  
2 days before the child is eligible for  
3 preschool services under part B of  
4 this Act in accordance with State law;  
5 and

6 “(III) with the approval of the  
7 family, make reasonable efforts to  
8 convene a conference among the lead  
9 agency, the family, and providers of  
10 other appropriate services for children  
11 who are not eligible for preschool serv-  
12 ices under part B;

13 “(B) review the child’s program options for  
14 the period from the child’s third birthday  
15 through the remainder of the school year; and

16 “(C) establish a transition plan, and”.

17 (b) Section 678(b) of the IDEA is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (5), by striking out “infants  
19 and toddlers with disabilities and their families” and  
20 inserting in lieu thereof “infants and toddlers and  
21 their families under this part”; and

22 (2) in paragraph (7)—

23 (A) by striking out “traditionally”; and

24 (B) by striking out “and rural” and insert-  
25 ing in lieu thereof “rural, and inner-city”.

## 1 USES OF FUNDS

2 SEC. 409. Section 679 of the IDEA is amended—

3 (1) by striking out “plan, develop, and”;

4 (2) in paragraph (1), by striking out “with dis-  
5 abilities and their families” and inserting in lieu  
6 thereof “and their families under this part”; and7 (3) in paragraph (2), by striking out “with dis-  
8 abilities and their families” and inserting in lieu  
9 thereof “and their families under this part”.

## 10 PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

11 SEC. 410. Section 680 of the IDEA is amended—

12 (1) in paragraphs (5) and (6), by striking out  
13 “with a disability”;14 (2) by redesignating paragraph (8) as sub-  
15 section (b);16 (3) by designating the remaining text as sub-  
17 section (a);18 (4) in subsection (a), as so designated, by in-  
19 serting the heading “MINIMUM PROCEDURES.” after  
20 “(a)”;21 (5) by adding a new paragraph (8) at the end  
22 of subsection (a), as designated by paragraph (3), to  
23 read as follows:24 “(8) The right of parents to use mediation in  
25 accordance with section 615(d), except that—

1           “(A) references in that section to the State  
2           educational agency shall be understood to refer  
3           to the State’s lead agency under this part; and

4           “(B) references in that section to a public  
5           agency shall be understood to refer to a local  
6           service provider or the State’s lead agency  
7           under this part, as the case may be.”; and

8           (6) in subsection (b), as redesignated by para-  
9           graph (2), by inserting the heading “SERVICES DUR-  
10          ING PENDENCY OF PROCEEDINGS.” after “(b)”.

11          STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

12          SEC. 411. Section 682(b)(1) of the IDEA is amended  
13          by adding at the end thereof new subparagraphs (H) and  
14          (I) to read as follows:

15                 “(H) A representative from a Head Start  
16                 agency or program in the State.

17                 “(I) A representative from a State agency  
18                 responsible for child care.”.

19          ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

20          SEC. 412. Section 684 of the IDEA is amended—

21                 (1) in subsection (a)—

22                         (A) by inserting “up to” before “1 per-  
23                         cent”;

24                         (B) by striking out “the Republic of the  
25                         Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Mi-  
26                         cronesia, the Republic of Palau,”;

1 (C) by redesignating subsection (a) as  
2 paragraph (1) of subsection (a); and

3 (D) by adding at the end thereof a new  
4 paragraph (2) to read as follows:

5 “(2) The provisions of Public Law 95–134, permit-  
6 ting the consolidation of grants to the outlying areas, shall  
7 not apply to funds those areas receive under this part.”;

8 (2) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as  
9 subsections (e) and (f), respectively;

10 (3) by inserting, after subsection (b), new sub-  
11 sections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

12 “(c) The Secretary shall reserve up to .05 of one per-  
13 cent of the amount appropriated under section 687 for any  
14 fiscal year for the operations of the Federal Interagency  
15 Coordinating Council under section 685, other than activi-  
16 ties of the panel of experts under section 686.

17 “(d) The Secretary may reserve up to \$100,000 for  
18 the expenses of the panel of experts established under sec-  
19 tion 686.”;

20 (4) in subsection (e), as redesignated by para-  
21 graph (2)—

22 (A) in paragraph (1)—

23 (i) by striking out “paragraphs (3),  
24 (4), and (5)” and inserting in lieu thereof

25 “paragraphs (2), (3), and (4),”; and

1           (ii) by striking out “subsections (a)  
2           and (b)” and inserting in lieu thereof  
3           “subsections (a) through (d) and section  
4           646(b)”;

5           (B) by striking out paragraph (2);

6           (C) by redesignating paragraphs (3)  
7           through (6) as paragraphs (2) through (5), re-  
8           spectively;

9           (D) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated—

10           (i) by striking out “paragraphs (4)  
11           and (5)” and inserting in lieu thereof  
12           “paragraphs (3) and (4)”;

13           (ii) by striking out “greater” and in-  
14           serting in lieu thereof “greatest”;

15           (iii) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
16           out “paragraph (1), excluding any  
17           amounts allotted under paragraph (2); or”  
18           and inserting in lieu thereof “paragraph  
19           (1);”;

20           (iv) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
21           out the period at the end thereof and in-  
22           serting in lieu thereof a semicolon and  
23           “or”; and

24           (v) by adding at the end thereof a new  
25           subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

1           “(C) for any fiscal year for which the total  
2 amount appropriated to carry out this part ex-  
3 ceeds the total amount appropriated to carry  
4 out this part for the preceding fiscal year by a  
5 percentage greater than the most recent per-  
6 centage change in the Fixed Weight Gross Na-  
7 tional Product price index, an amount equal to  
8 the State’s allotment for the preceding fiscal  
9 year increased by the percentage change in the  
10 Fixed Weight Gross National Product price  
11 index.”;

12           (E) in paragraph (3), as redesignated by  
13 subparagraph (C), by striking out “paragraph  
14 (5)” and inserting in lieu thereof “paragraph  
15 (4)” and

16           (F) in paragraph (5), as redesignated by  
17 subparagraph (C)—

18                 (i) by striking out “paragraph (1)”  
19 and inserting in lieu thereof “this sub-  
20 section”; and

21                 (ii) by amending subparagraph (B) to  
22 read as follows:

23           “(B) the term ‘State’ means each of the 50  
24 States, the District of Columbia, and the Com-  
25 monwealth of Puerto Rico.”; and

1           (5) in subsection (f), as redesignated by para-  
2           graph (2), by striking out “subsection (c)(1)” and  
3           inserting in lieu thereof “subsection (e)(1)”.

4           FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

5           SEC. 413. (a) PURPOSE OF COUNCIL.—Section  
6           685(a)(1) of the IDEA is amended by inserting a comma  
7           and “including at-risk infants and toddlers,” after “in-  
8           fants and toddlers with disabilities”.

9           (b) COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL.—Section  
10          685(b)(18) of the IDEA is amended—

11           (1) by striking out “at least 3”; and

12           (2) by inserting a comma and “who shall con-  
13          stitute at least 20 percent of the members of the  
14          Council” before the semicolon at the end thereof.

15          (c) FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL.—Section  
16          685(d)(1) of the IDEA is amended to read as follows:

17           “(1) advise and assist the Secretaries of Edu-  
18          cation, Health and Human Services, Defense, Agri-  
19          culture, and the Interior and the Commissioner of  
20          the Social Security Administration in the perform-  
21          ance of their responsibilities related to serving chil-  
22          dren aged birth through five who are eligible for  
23          services under this part or under part B of this  
24          Act;”.

1 (d) FACA INAPPLICABLE.—Section 685 of the IDEA  
2 is further amended by adding at the end thereof a new  
3 subsection (f) to read as follows:

4 “(f) The Federal Advisory Committee Act shall not  
5 apply to the establishment or operation of the Council.”.

6 STUDY OF DEFINITION OF “DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY”

7 SEC. 414. (a) REDESIGNATION OF SECTION.—Sec-  
8 tion 686 of the IDEA is redesignated as section 687.

9 (b) DEFINITION OF “DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY”.—  
10 Part H of the IDEA is amended by inserting after section  
11 685 a new section 686 to read as follows:

12 “STUDY OF DEFINITION OF ‘DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY’

13 “SEC. 686. (a) PANEL OF EXPERTS.—(1) Within  
14 three months of the enactment of the Individuals with Dis-  
15 abilities Education Act Amendments of 1995, the Federal  
16 Interagency Coordinating Council established under sec-  
17 tion 685 shall convene a panel of experts to develop rec-  
18 ommendations to the Secretary for a uniform national def-  
19 inition of the term “developmental delay” as that term  
20 is used in this part.

21 “(2) The panel shall include recognized experts in—

22 “(A) health and child development, whose work  
23 includes—

24 “(i) the evaluation and assessment of in-  
25 fants and toddlers with disabilities;

1           “(ii) the study of congenital or perinatal  
2 disorders in children; or

3           “(iii) the measurement of developmental  
4 milestones in infants and toddlers;

5           “(B) the administration of disability programs  
6 for young children; and

7           “(C) other fields that the Secretary finds ap-  
8 propriate.

9           “(3) The panel shall also—

10           “(A) have no more than 12 members; and

11           “(B) include at least one parent of a child with  
12 a disability under the age of six.

13           “(b) PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS.—The panel shall  
14 report its recommendations to the Secretary not later than  
15 nine months after the enactment of the Individuals with  
16 Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1995.

17           “(c) REGULATORY DEFINITION.—(1) After receiving  
18 the panel’s recommendations, the Secretary may publish  
19 a proposed regulatory definition of the term “developmen-  
20 tal delay” for the purposes of this part.

21           “(2) After taking comments from the public on any  
22 definition proposed under paragraph (1), the Secretary  
23 may issue a final regulatory definition, which shall not  
24 take effect until at least one year after it is published.

1 “(d) FACA INAPPLICABLE.—The Federal Advisory  
2 Committee Act shall not apply to the establishment or op-  
3 eration of the panel convened under this section.”.

4 AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

5 SEC. 415. Section 687 of the IDEA, as redesignated  
6 by section 414(a), is amended to read as follows:

7 “AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

8 “SEC. 687. For the purpose of carrying out this part,  
9 there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may  
10 be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1996 through  
11 2001.”.

12 TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

13 SEC. 416. (a) Section 672 of the IDEA is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (2)(H), by striking out “sec-  
15 tion 677” and inserting in lieu thereof “section  
16 676”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking out “section  
18 676(b)(1)” and inserting in lieu thereof “section  
19 675(b)(1)”.

20 (b) Subsection (e) of section 676 of the IDEA, as  
21 redesignated by section 404(b), is amended by striking out  
22 “or guardian” each place it appears.

23 (c) Section 678 of the IDEA is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a)(6), by striking out “and,  
25 for the fifth and succeeding fiscal years,” and insert-  
26 ing in lieu thereof “and”; and

1           (2) in subsection (b)(7), by striking out “begin-  
2           ning in fiscal year 1992,”.

3           (d) Section 679 of the IDEA is amended by striking  
4 out “section 676” and inserting in lieu thereof “section  
5 675”.

6           (e) Section 680 of the IDEA is amended—

7           (1) by striking out “or guardian”, “or a guard-  
8           ian”, “or guardians”, and “or guardian’s” each  
9           place they appear; and

10          (2) in subsection (a), as designated by section  
11 410(3)—

12           (A) by striking out “section 676(b)(12)  
13           shall provide” and inserting in lieu thereof  
14           “section 675(b)(13) shall include”; and

15           (B) in paragraph (1), by striking out  
16           “complaint, which action may be brought” and  
17           inserting in lieu thereof “complaint”.

18          (f) Section 682 of the IDEA is amended—

19           (1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking out “sec-  
20           tion 676(b)(9)” and inserting in lieu thereof “section  
21           675(b)(10)”;

22           (2) in subsection (e)(1)(A), by striking out  
23           “section 676(b)(9)” and inserting in lieu thereof  
24           “section 675(b)(10)”;

25           (3) by striking out subsection (g).

1 (g) Section 683(a) of the IDEA is amended by strik-  
 2 ing out “section 676(b)(9)” and inserting in lieu thereof  
 3 “section 675(b)(10)”.

4 (h) Section 684(b)(2) of the IDEA is amended by  
 5 striking out “The Secretary of the Interior” and all that  
 6 follows through “shall receive” in subparagraph (B) and  
 7 inserting in lieu thereof “For each fiscal year, the Sec-  
 8 retary of the Interior shall distribute the entire payment  
 9 received under paragraph (1) by providing to each tribe  
 10 or tribal organization”.

11 (i) Section 685(b) of the IDEA is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (16), by striking out “Alcohol,  
 13 Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration” and  
 14 inserting in lieu thereof “Substance Abuse and Men-  
 15 tal Health Services Administration”; and

16 (2) in paragraph (17), by striking out “Aids”  
 17 and inserting in lieu thereof “AIDS”.

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HR 1986 IH—2

HR 1986 IH—3

HR 1986 IH—4

HR 1986 IH—5

HR 1986 IH—6

HR 1986 IH—7

HR 1986 IH—8

HR 1986 IH—9

HR 1986 IH—10

HR 1986 IH—11