

[COMMITTEE PRINT]

H.R. 2210**AS AMENDED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION REFORM**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “School Readiness Act
3 of 2003”.

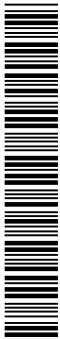
4 **TITLE I—HEAD START REAU-**
5 **THORIZATION AND PROGRAM**
6 **IMPROVEMENTS**

7 **SEC. 101. PURPOSE.**

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

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

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



1 **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.**

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

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

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

7 “(18) The term ‘eligible entities’ means an in-
8 stitution of higher education or other agency with
9 expertise in delivering training in early childhood de-
10 velopment, family support, and other assistance de-
11 signed to improve the quality of early childhood edu-
12 cations programs.

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

17 **SEC. 103. AUTHORIZATION.**

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

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

21 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-
22 propriated for carrying out the provisions of this sub-
23 chapter \$6,870,000,000 for the fiscal year 2004 and such
24 sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2005 through
25 2008.



1 “(b) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—From the amount ap-
2 propriated under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make
3 available not more than \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2004,
4 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
5 2005 through 2008, to carry out such other research,
6 demonstration, and evaluation activities, including longitu-
7 dinal studies, under section 649, of which not more than
8 \$7,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008
9 shall be available to carry out impact studies under section
10 649(g).

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

14 “(2) not more than \$13,000,000 for fiscal year
15 2004, and such sums as may be necessary for each
16 of fiscal years 2005 through 2008, to carry out
17 other research, demonstration, and evaluation activi-
18 ties, including longitudinal studies, under section
19 649.

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



1 **SEC. 104. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS; LIMITATIONS ON ASSIST-**
2 **ANCE.**

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

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

6 (A) By striking "1998" in subparagraph

7 (A) and inserting "2003".

8 (B) By amending subparagraph (B) to
9 read as follows:

10 "(B) payments, subject to paragraph (7) to
11 Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the
12 Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands of
13 the United States;"

14 (2) By striking the last sentence of paragraph
15 (2) of subsection (a).

16 (3) By amending subsection (a)(2)(C) to read
17 as follows:

18 "(C) training and technical assistance activities
19 that are sufficient to meet the needs associated with
20 program expansion and to foster program and man-
21 agement improvement as described in section 648 of
22 this subchapter, in an amount for each fiscal year
23 which is not less than one percent, and shall not ex-
24 ceed 2 percent, of the amount appropriated for such
25 fiscal year, of which—



1 “(i) not less than 50 percent shall be made
2 available to local Head Start agencies to comply
3 with the standards described in section
4 641A(a)(1), of which not less than 50 percent
5 shall be used to comply with the standards de-
6 scribed in section 641A(a)(1)(B) and for the
7 uses described in clauses (iii), (iv), and (vii) of
8 subsection (a)(3)(B).

9 “(ii) not less than 30 percent shall be
10 made available to support a State system of
11 early childhood education training and technical
12 assistance;

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

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

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

23 “(iii) After taking into consideration the require-
24 ments in paragraph (2), a portion of the remaining funds
25 shall be made available to expand services to underserved



1 populations, such as children receiving services under the
2 Early Head Start and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start
3 programs.”.

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

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

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

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

14 (ii) Ensuring that such programs have ade-
15 quate numbers of qualified staff, and that such staff
16 is furnished adequate training, including developing
17 skills to promote the development of language skills,
18 mathematic skills, and literacy in young children and
19 in working with children with non-English language
20 background and children with disabilities, when ap-
21 propriate.

22 (iii) Developing and financing the salary scales
23 described under section 644(a) and section 653, in
24 order to ensure that salary levels and benefits are



1 adequate to attract and retain qualified staff for
2 such programs.

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

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

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

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



1 fied, through scientifically based reading research, as
2 predictive of later reading achievement.

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

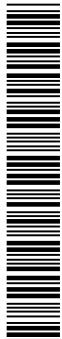
6 “(ix) Making such other improvements in the
7 quality of such programs as the Secretary may des-
8 ignate.

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

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

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

16 “(i)(I) Not less than one-half of the amount re-
17 served under this paragraph, to improve the com-
18 pensation (including benefits) of classroom teachers
19 and other staff of Head Start agencies providing in-
20 structional services and thereby enhancing recruit-
21 ment and retention of qualified staff, including re-
22 cruitment and retention pursuant to achieving the
23 requirements set forth in section 648A(a). The ex-
24 penditure of funds under this clause shall be subject
25 to section 653. Salary increases, in excess of cost-of-



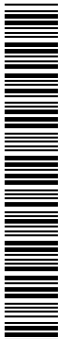
1 living allowance, provided with such funds shall be
2 subject to the specific standards governing salaries
3 and salary increases established pursuant to section
4 644(a).

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

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

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

21 “(I) to promote children’s language and
22 literacy growth, through techniques identified
23 through scientifically based reading research;



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

18 “(vii) From an amount not to exceed 25 per-
19 cent of the amount reserved under this paragraph,
20 the Secretary may award bonuses to High Per-
21 forming Grantees (as defined in regulations promul-
22 gated by the Secretary).

23 “(viii) Such other activities as the Secretary
24 may designate.



1 “(ix) To conduct outreach to migrant and sea-
2 sonal farm-working families and families with chil-
3 dren with a limited English proficiency.”.

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

6 (9) In subsection (a)(5)(B)—

7 (A) by striking “may” and inserting
8 “shall”; and

9 (B) by inserting “early childhood edu-
10 cation” after “regarding”.

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

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

15 “(i) appoint an individual to serve as the State
16 Director of Collaboration between—

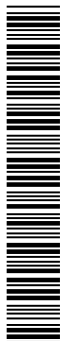
17 “(I) the appropriate regional office of the
18 Administration for Children and Families;

19 “(II) the State educational agency;

20 “(III) the State Department of Health and
21 Human Services;

22 “(IV) the State agency that oversees child
23 care;

24 “(V) the State agency that assists children
25 with developmental disabilities;



1 “(VI) the State Head Start Association;

2 “(VII) the State network of child care re-
3 source and referral agencies;

4 “(VIII) local educational agencies;

5 “(IX) community-based and faith-based or-
6 ganizations;

7 “(X) State representatives of migrant and
8 seasonal Head Start programs;

9 “(XI) State representatives of Indian Head
10 Start programs;

11 “(XII) State and local providers of early
12 childhood education and child care; and

13 “(XIII) other entities carrying out pro-
14 grams serving low-income children and families
15 in the State;

16 “(ii) ensure that the State Director of Collabo-
17 ration holds a position with sufficient authority and
18 access to ensure that the collaboration described in
19 subparagraph (B) is effective and involves a range
20 of State agencies;

21 “(iii) involve the entities described in section
22 clause (i) to develop a strategic plan for the coordi-
23 nated outreach to identify eligible children and im-
24 plementation strategies based on a needs assessment
25 conducted by the Office of the State Director of Col-



1 laboration which shall include an assessment of the
2 availability of high quality prekindergarten services
3 for low-income children in the State. Such assess-
4 ment shall be completed within one year after the
5 date of enactment of the ‘School Readiness Act of
6 2003’ and be updated on an annual basis and shall
7 be made available to the general public within the
8 State;

9 “(iv) ensure that the collaboration described in
10 subparagraph (B) involves coordination of Head
11 Start services with health care, welfare, child care,
12 education, and community service activities, family
13 literacy services, activities relating to children with
14 disabilities (including coordination of services with
15 those State officials who are responsible for admin-
16 istering part C and section 619 of the Individuals
17 with Disabilities Education Act), and services for
18 homeless children (including coordination of services
19 with the Office of Coordinator for Education of
20 Homeless Children and Youth designated under sec-
21 tion 722 (g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Home-
22 less Education Assistance Improvements Act of
23 2001;

24 “(v) consult with the chief State school officer,
25 local educational agencies, and representatives of



1 local Head Start agencies in unified planning re-
2 garding early care and education services at both the
3 State and local levels, including collaborative efforts
4 to develop school readiness standards; and”

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

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

18 (12) By amending subsection (a)(6)(A) to read
19 as follows:

20 “(A) From amounts reserved and allotted pursuant
21 to paragraphs (2) and (4), the Secretary shall use, for
22 grants for programs described in section 645A(a) of this
23 subchapter, a portion of the combined total of such
24 amounts equal to 10 percent for fiscal years 2004 through



1 2008, of the amount appropriated pursuant to section
2 639(a), except as provided in subparagraph (B).”

3 (13) By inserting the following before the pe-
4 riod at the end of subsection (f): “, including models
5 that leverage the existing capacity and capabilities of
6 the delivery system of early childhood education and
7 child care”.

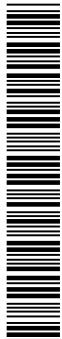
8 (14) By inserting the following after “manner
9 that will” in subsection (g)(2)(G): “leverage the ex-
10 isting delivery systems of such services and”.

11 (15) By inserting after “children with disabil-
12 ities” in subsection (g)(2)(C) the following: “and
13 homeless children (including the local educational
14 agency liaison designated under section
15 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless
16 Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001”.

17 (16) By inserting in subsection (g)(2)(H) after
18 “serving the community involved,” the following: “,
19 including the liaison designated under section
20 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless
21 Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001,”.

22 (17) By adding the following new subsection at
23 the end thereof:

24 “(m) ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS CHILDREN.—The
25 Secretary shall by regulation prescribe policies and proce-



1 dures to remove barriers to the enrollment and participa-
2 tion of eligible homeless children in Head Start programs.

3 Such regulations shall require Head Start agencies to:

4 “(1) implement policies and procedures to en-
5 sure that eligible homeless children are identified
6 and prioritized for enrollment, and

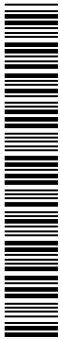
7 “(2) allow homeless families to apply to, enroll
8 in and attend Head Start programs while required
9 documents, such as proof of residency, immunization
10 and other medical records, birth certificates and
11 other documents, are obtained within a reasonable
12 time frame, and

13 “(3) coordinate individual Head Start centers
14 and programs with efforts to implement Subtitle
15 VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
16 Act.”.

17 **SEC. 105. DESIGNATION OF AGENCIES.**

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

20 (1) In subsection (a) by inserting after “com-
21 munity” in the first place it appears “, including a
22 community-based or faith-based organization” and
23 by inserting “(1)” after “(a)” and by adding the fol-
24 lowing at the end thereof:



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

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

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

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

14 (2) By amending subsection (c) to read as fol-
15 lows:

16 “(c) In the administration of the provisions of this
17 section, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the chief
18 executive officer of the State involved if such State ex-
19 pends non-Federal funds to carry out Head Start pro-
20 grams, give priority in the designation of Head Start
21 agencies to any local public or private nonprofit or for-
22 profit agency which is receiving funds under any Head
23 Start program on the date of the enactment of this Act
24 that fulfills the program and financial management re-
25 quirements, standards described in section 641A(a)(1), re-



1 sults-based performance measures developed by the Sec-
2 retary under section 641A(b), or other requirements es-
3 tablished by the Secretary.”.

4 (3) By amending subsection (d) to read as fol-
5 lows:

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

20 “(1) any past performance of such applicant in
21 providing services comparable to Head Start serv-
22 ices, including how effectively such applicant pro-
23 vided such comparable services;

24 “(2) the capacity of such applicant to serve eli-
25 gible children with scientifically-based programs that



1 promote school readiness of children participating in
2 the program;

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

7 “(4) the plan of such applicant to provide com-
8 prehensive health, nutritional, educational, social,
9 and other services needed to prepare children to suc-
10 ceed in school;

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

23 “(6) the plan of such applicant to coordinate
24 the Head Start program it proposes to carry out
25 with private entities with resources available to as-



1 sist the Head Start Program meet its program
2 needs;

3 “(7) the plan of such applicant—

4 “(A) to seek the involvement of parents of
5 participating children in activities (at home and
6 in the center involved where practicable) de-
7 signed to help such parents become full part-
8 ners in the education of their children;

9 “(B) to afford such parents the oppor-
10 tunity to participate in the development, con-
11 duct, and overall performance of the program
12 at the local level;

13 “(C) to offer (directly or through referral
14 to local entities, such as entities carrying out
15 Even Start programs under part B of chapter
16 1 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary
17 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2741 et
18 seq.), public and school libraries, and family
19 support programs) to such parents—

20 “(i) family literacy services; and

21 “(ii) parenting skills training;

22 “(D) to offer to parents of participating
23 children substance abuse counseling (either di-
24 rectly or through referral to local entities), in-



1 including information on drug-exposed infants
2 and fetal alcohol syndrome;

3 “(E) at the option of such applicant, to
4 offer (directly or through referral to local enti-
5 ties) to such parents—

6 “(i) training in basic child develop-
7 ment;

8 “(ii) assistance in developing commu-
9 nication skills;

10 “(iii) opportunities for parents to
11 share experiences with other parents; or

12 “(iv) any other activity designed to
13 help such parents become full partners in
14 the education of their children; and

15 “(F) to provide, with respect to each par-
16 ticipating family, a family needs assessment
17 that includes consultation with such parents
18 about the benefits of parent involvement and
19 about the activities described in subparagraphs
20 (C) (D), and (E) in which such parents may
21 choose to become involved (taking into consider-
22 ation their specific family needs, work sched-
23 ules, and other responsibilities);

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



1 “(9) other factors related to the requirements
2 of this subchapter;

3 “(10) the plan of such applicant to meet the
4 needs of non-English background children and their
5 families, including needs related to the acquisition of
6 the English language;

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

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

13 “(13) the plan of such applicant to collaborate
14 with other entities carrying out early childhood edu-
15 cation and child care programs in the community.

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

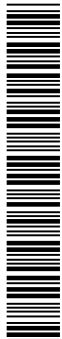
18 **SEC. 106. QUALITY STANDARDS; MONITORING OF HEAD**

19 **START AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS.**

20 Section 641A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
21 9836a) is amended as follows:

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

24 “(ii) additional education standards to en-
25 sure that the children participating in the pro-



1 gram, at a minimum develop and
2 demonstrate—

3 “(I) language skills;

4 “(II) prereading knowledge and skills,
5 including interest in and appreciation of
6 books, reading and writing either alone or
7 with others;

8 “(III) premathematics knowledge and
9 skills, including aspects of classification,
10 seriation, number, spatial relations, and
11 time;

12 “(IV) cognitive abilities related to aca-
13 demic achievement;

14 “(V) social development important for
15 environments constructive for child devel-
16 opment, early learning, and school success;
17 and

18 “(VI) in the case of limited-English
19 proficient children, progress toward acqui-
20 sition of the English language.”.

21 (2) By amending subsection (a)(2)(B) to read
22 as follows:

23 “(B) take into consideration—



1 “(i) past experience with use of the
2 standards in effect under this subchapter
3 on October 27, 1998;

4 “(ii) changes over the period since Oc-
5 tober 27, 1998, in the circumstances and
6 problems typically facing children and fam-
7 ilies served by Head Start agencies;

8 “(iii) developments concerning best
9 practices with respect to early childhood
10 education and development, children with
11 disabilities, family services, program ad-
12 ministration, and financial management;

13 “(iv) projected needs of an expanding
14 Head Start program;

15 “(v) guidelines and standards cur-
16 rently in effect or under consideration that
17 promote child health services, and pro-
18 jected needs of expanding Head Start pro-
19 grams;

20 “(vi) changes in the population of
21 children who are eligible to participate in
22 Head Start programs, including the lan-
23 guage background and family structure of
24 such children;



1 “(vii) the need for, and state-of-the-
2 art developments relating to, local policies
3 and activities designed to ensure that chil-
4 dren participating in Head Start programs
5 make a successful transition to public
6 schools; and

7 “(viii) the unique challenges faced by
8 individual programs, including those that
9 are seasonal or short term, and those that
10 serve rural populations; and”.

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

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

16 “(2) CHARACTERISTICS OF MEASURES.—The
17 performance measures developed under this sub-
18 section shall—

19 “(A) be used to assess the impact of the
20 various services provided by Head Start pro-
21 grams and, to the extent the Secretary finds
22 appropriate, administrative and financial man-
23 agement practices of such programs;



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

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

6 “(D) be appropriate for the population
7 served; and

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

11 The performance measures shall include the per-
12 formance standards described in subsection
13 (a)(1)(A) and (B).”.

14 (5) By amending subsection (b)(4) to read as
15 follows:

16 “(4) EDUCATIONAL MEASURES.—Results based
17 measures shall be designed for the purpose of pro-
18 moting the competencies of children participating in
19 Head Start programs specified in subsection
20 (a)(1)(B)(ii), with an emphasis on measuring those
21 competencies that have a strong scientifically-based
22 predictability of a child’s school readiness and later
23 performance in school.”.

24 (6) In subsection (c)(1)(C) by striking “the
25 standards” and inserting “one or more of the per-



1 formance measures developed by the Secretary under
2 subsection (b)”.
3

4 (7) By amending subsection (c)(2) to read as
5 follows:
6

7 “(2) CONDUCT OF REVIEWS.—The Secretary
8 shall ensure that reviews described in subparagraphs
9 (A) through (C) of paragraph (1)—
10

11 “(A) that incorporate a monitoring visit,
12 do so without prior notice of the visit to the
13 local agency or program;
14

15 “(B) are conducted by review teams that
16 shall include individuals who are knowledgeable
17 about Head Start programs and, to the maximum
18 extent practicable, the diverse (including
19 linguistic and cultural) needs of eligible children
20 (including children with disabilities) and limited-
21 English proficient children and their families;
22

23 “(C) include as part of the reviews of the
24 programs, a review and assessment of program
effectiveness, as measured in accordance with
the results-based performance measures developed
by the Secretary pursuant to subsection
(b) and with the standards established pursuant



1 to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection
2 (a)(1);

3 “(D) seek information from the commu-
4 nities and the States involved about the per-
5 formance of the programs and the efforts of the
6 Head Start agencies to collaborate with other
7 entities carrying out early childhood education
8 and child care programs in the community;

9 “(E) seek information from the commu-
10 nities where Head Start programs exist about
11 innovative or effective collaborative efforts, bar-
12 riers to collaboration, and the efforts of the
13 Head Start agencies and programs to collabo-
14 rate with the entities carrying out early child-
15 hood education and child care programs in the
16 community; and

17 “(F) include as part of the reviews of the
18 programs, a review and assessment of whether
19 a program is in conformity with the income eli-
20 gibility requirements, as defined in section 645
21 and regulations promulgated thereunder.

22 “(G) include as part of the reviews of the
23 programs, a review and assessment of whether
24 programs have adequately addressed the popu-
25 lation and community needs (including popu-



1 lations of children with a limited English pro-
2 ficiency and children of migrant and seasonal
3 farm-working families); and

4 “(H) include as part of the review the ex-
5 tent to which the program addresses the com-
6 munity needs and strategic plan identified in
7 640(g)(2)(C).”.

8 (8) By amending subsection (d)(1) as follows:

9 (A) By striking “or results” and inserting
10 a comma.

11 (B) By striking “(b),” and inserting “(b),
12 or fails to adequately address the community
13 needs and strategic plan identified in section
14 640(g)(2)(C).”.

15 (9) By amending subsection (d)(2) to read as
16 follows:

17 “(2) QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—

18 “(A) AGENCY AND PROGRAM RESPONSIBIL-
19 ITIES.—In order to retain a designation as a
20 Head Start agency under this subchapter, or in
21 the case of a Head Start Program, in order to
22 continue to receive funds from such agency, a
23 Head Start agency, or Head Start program
24 that is the subject of a determination described
25 in paragraph (1) (other than an agency or pro-



1 gram required to correct a deficiency imme-
2 diately or during a 90-day period under clause
3 (i) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(B)) shall—

4 “(i) develop in a timely manner, a
5 quality improvement plan which shall be
6 subject to the approval of the Secretary, or
7 in the case of a program, the sponsoring
8 agency, and which shall specify—

9 “(I) the deficiencies to be cor-
10 rected;

11 “(II) the actions to be taken to
12 correct such deficiencies; and

13 “(III) the timetable for accom-
14 plishment of the corrective actions
15 specified; and

16 “(ii) eliminate each deficiency identi-
17 fied, not later than the date for elimination
18 of such deficiency specified in such plan
19 (which shall not be later than 1 year after
20 the date the agency or program received
21 notice of the determination and of the spe-
22 cific deficiency to be corrected).

23 “(B) SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—Not
24 later than 30 days after receiving from a Head
25 Start agency a proposed quality improvement



1 plan pursuant to subparagraph (A), the Sec-
2 retary shall either approve such proposed plan
3 or specify the reasons why the proposed plan
4 cannot be approved.

5 “(C) AGENCY RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRO-
6 GRAM IMPROVEMENT.—Not later than 30 days
7 after receiving from a Head Start program, a
8 proposed quality improvement plan pursuant to
9 subparagraph (A), the sponsoring agency shall
10 either approve such proposed plan or specify
11 the reasons why the proposed plan cannot be
12 approved.”.

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

15 (11) Subsection (e) is amended to read as fol-
16 lows:

17 “(e) SUMMARIES OF MONITORING OUTCOMES.—Not
18 later than 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, the
19 Secretary shall publish a summary report on the findings
20 of reviews conducted under subsection (c) and on the out-
21 comes of quality improvement plans implemented under
22 subsection (d), during such fiscal year. Such information
23 shall be made available to all parents with students receiv-
24 ing assistance under this Act in a understandable and uni-
25 form format, and to the extent practicable, provided in a



1 language that the parents can understand, and in addi-
2 tion, make the information widely available through public
3 means such as distribution through public agencies, and
4 at a minimum posting such information on the Internet
5 immediately upon publication.”.

6 **SEC. 107. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGEN-**
7 **CIES.**

8 Section 642 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
9 9837(b)) is amended as follows:

10 (1) By amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
11 lows:

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

14 “(1) establish a program with standards set
15 forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular atten-
16 tion to the standards set forth in subparagraphs (A)
17 and (B) of such section;

18 “(2) demonstrate capacity to serve eligible chil-
19 dren with scientifically-based curricula and other
20 interventions that help promote the school readiness
21 of children participating in the program;

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



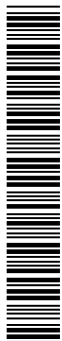
1 “(4) provide for their regular participation in
2 the implementation of such programs;

3 “(5) provide technical and other support needed
4 to enable parents and area residents to secure on
5 their own behalf available assistance from public and
6 private sources;

7 “(6) seek the involvement of parents of partici-
8 pating children in activities designed to help such
9 parents become full partners in the education of
10 their children, and to afford such parents the oppor-
11 tunity to participate in the development, conduct,
12 and overall performance of the program at the local
13 level;

14 “(7) conduct outreach to schools in which Head
15 Start children enroll, local educational agencies, the
16 local business community, community-based organi-
17 zations, faith-based organizations, museums, and li-
18 braries to generate support and leverage the re-
19 sources of the entire local community in order to im-
20 prove school readiness;

21 “(8) offer (directly or through referral to local
22 entities, such as entities carrying out Even Start
23 programs under part B of chapter 1 of title I of the
24 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
25 (20 U.S.C. 2741 et seq.)), to parents of partici-



1 pating children, family literacy services and par-
2 enting skills training;

3 “(9) offer to parents of participating children
4 substance abuse counseling (either directly or
5 through referral to local entities), including informa-
6 tion on drug-exposed infants and fetal alcohol syn-
7 drome;

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

11 “(A) training in basic child development;

12 “(B) assistance in developing communica-
13 tion skills;

14 “(C) opportunities to share experiences
15 with other parents;

16 “(D) regular in-home visitation; or

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

20 “(11) provide, with respect to each partici-
21 pating family, a family needs assessment that in-
22 cludes consultation with such parents about the ben-
23 efits of parent involvement and about the activities
24 described in paragraphs (4) through (7) in which
25 such parents may choose to be involved (taking into



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

3 “(12) consider providing services to assist
4 younger siblings of children participating in its Head
5 Start program to obtain health services from other
6 sources;

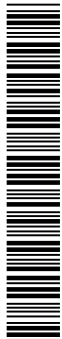
7 “(13) perform community outreach to encour-
8 age individuals previously unaffiliated with Head
9 Start programs to participate in its Head Start pro-
10 gram as volunteers; and

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

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

19 (2) In subsection (c), after “including” insert
20 the following: “programs under subtitle VII-B of the
21 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 USC
22 11431-11435)”.

23 (3) In subsection (d) by redesignating para-
24 graphs (2) through (4) as paragraph (3) through (5)



1 and inserting the following new paragraph after
2 paragraph (1):

3 “(2) In communities where both public prekindergarten
4 garten programs and Head Start programs operate, a
5 Head Start agency shall coordinate with the local educational
6 agency or other public agency responsible for the
7 operation of the prekindergarten program, including for
8 outreach to identify eligible children.”.

9 (5) In paragraph (3) (as redesignated) of subsection
10 (d) insert the following after subparagraph (A) and redesignate
11 subparagraph (B) as (C):

12 “(B) collaborating to increase the program
13 participation of underserved populations of eligible
14 children; and”.

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

16 Section 642A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
17 9837a) is amended as follows:

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

19 **“SEC. 642A. HEAD START ALIGNMENT WITH K-12 EDUCATION.”.**
20

21 (2) In paragraph (2) after “social workers” insert the following: “McKinney-Vento liaisons as established under section 722 (g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance
22
23
24
25 Improvements Act of 2001,”.



1 (3) Add the following new paragraph after
2 paragraph (2) and make the necessary conforming
3 changes:

4 “(3) developing continuity of developmentally
5 appropriate curricula between Head Start and local
6 educational agencies to ensure an effective transition
7 and appropriate shared expectations for children’s
8 learning and development as they make such transi-
9 tion to school.”.

10 (4) Paragraph (5) is amended to read as fol-
11 lows:

12 “(5) developing and implementing a family out-
13 reach and support program in cooperation with enti-
14 ties carrying out parental involvement efforts under
15 Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education
16 Act of 1965 and family outreach and support efforts
17 under subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Home-
18 less Assistance Act.”.

19 (4) In paragraph (6) by inserting “and con-
20 tinuity in parental involvement activities” after “de-
21 velopmental continuity”.

22 (5) Strike “and” at the end of paragraph (6)
23 and strike the period at the end of paragraph (7)
24 and insert “; and”.

25 (6) Add the following after paragraph (7):



1 “(8) helping parents to understand the impor-
2 tance of parental involvement in a child’s academic
3 success while teaching them strategies for maintain-
4 ing parental involvement as their child moves from
5 Head Start to elementary school; and

6 “(9) developing and implementing a system to
7 increase program participation of underserved popu-
8 lations of eligible children.”.

9 **SEC. 109. ELIGIBILITY.**

10 Section 645(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
11 9843) is amended by adding the following new paragraph
12 at the end thereof:

13 “(3) The amount of a basic allowance provided under
14 section 403 of title 37, United States Code, on behalf of
15 an individual who is a member of the uniformed services
16 for housing that is acquired or constructed under the au-
17 thority of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United
18 States Code, or any other related provision of law, shall
19 not be considered to be income for purposes of deter-
20 mining the eligibility of a child of the individual for pro-
21 grams assisted under this subchapter.”.

22 **SEC. 110. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

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



1 (1) In subsection (b)(1) by striking “physical,
2 social, emotional, and intellectual development” and
3 inserting “learning, health, and development”.

4 (2) By amending paragraph (5) to read as fol-
5 lows:

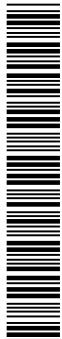
6 “(5) coordinate services with services provided
7 by programs in the State and programs in the com-
8 munity (including programs for infants and toddlers
9 with disabilities and homeless infants and toddlers)
10 to ensure a comprehensive array of services (such as
11 health and mental health services);”.

12 (3) In subsection (g)(2)(B) by striking “and”
13 at the end of clause (iii), by striking the period at
14 the end of clause (iv) and inserting “; and” and by
15 inserting the following at the end:

16 “(v) providing professional develop-
17 ment designed to increase program partici-
18 pation for underserved populations of eligi-
19 ble children.”.

20 (b) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL PROGRAMS.—Section
21 645A(d)(1) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9643(d)(1))
22 is amended to read as follows:

23 “(1) entities operating Head Start programs
24 under this subpart, including migrant and seasonal
25 Head Start programs; and”.



1 **SEC. 111. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.**

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

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

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

15 “(1) ensure eligible entities within a State are
16 chosen by the Secretary through a competitive bid
17 process;

18 “(2) ensure that existing agencies with dem-
19 onstrated expertise in providing high quality training
20 and technical assistance to improve the delivery of
21 Head Start services, including the State Head Start
22 Association, State agencies, migrant and seasonal
23 Head Start programs operating in the State, and
24 other entities currently providing training and tech-
25 nical assistance in early education, be included in



1 the planning and coordination of the State system of
2 training and technical assistance; and

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

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

10 (A) In paragraph (5) after “assessment”
11 insert “including the needs of homeless children
12 and their families.”.

13 (B) By striking “and” at the end of para-
14 graph (10), by striking the period at the end of
15 paragraph (11) and inserting “; and” and by
16 inserting the following at the end:

17 “(12) assist Head Start agencies and programs
18 in increasing program participation of eligible home-
19 less children.”.

20 (3) By amending subsection (f) (as redesign-
21 ated by paragraph (1)) to read as follows:

22 “(f) The Secretary shall provide, either directly or
23 through grants or other arrangements, funds from pro-
24 grams authorized under this subchapter to support train-
25 ing for personnel providing services to non-English lan-



1 guage background children (including services to promote
2 the acquisition of the English language), training for per-
3 sonnel in helping children cope with community violence,
4 and resource access projects for personnel working with
5 disabled children.”.

6 (4) Insert at the end of the section:

7 “(g) HELPING PERSONNEL BETTER SERVE MI-
8 GRANT AND SEASONAL FARM-WORKING COMMUNITIES.—
9 The Secretary shall provide, either directly or through
10 grants, or other arrangements, funds for training of Head
11 Start personnel in addressing the unique needs of migrant
12 and seasonal working families and families with a limited
13 English proficiency.”.

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

21 “(1) Education and early childhood develop-
22 ment.

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

24 “(3) Family and community partnerships.



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

3 “(i) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Funds au-
4 thorized under this section shall not be used to cover the
5 cost of 1-day or short-term workshops or conferences or
6 travel expenses.

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

13 **SEC. 112. STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT.**

14 Section 648A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
15 9843a) is amended as follows:

16 (1) By amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
17 lows:

18 “(2) DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.—

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

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



1 “(ii) a baccalaureate, or advanced de-
2 gree in a field related to early childhood
3 education, with experience in teaching pre-
4 school children.

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

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



1 “(i) have an associate, baccalaureate,
2 or advanced degree in early childhood edu-
3 cation;

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

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

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

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

23 “(f) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS.—Every
24 Head Start agency and program shall create, in consulta-
25 tion with an employee, a professional development plan for



1 all full-time employees who provide direct services to chil-
2 dren.”.

3 **SEC. 113. RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND EVALUA-**
4 **TION.**

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

7 (1) By striking subsection (b) and inserting
8 “(b) REPEALED.—”.

9 (2) By striking paragraph (9) of subsection (d)
10 and inserting “(a) REPEALED.—”.

11 (3) By striking clause (i) of subsection
12 (g)(1)(A) and redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) as
13 clauses (i) and (ii).

14 (4) In subsection (g)(7)(C)(i) by striking
15 “1999” and inserting “2003”, striking “2001” and
16 inserting “2005”, and striking “2003” and inserting
17 “2006”.

18 (5) By striking subsection (h).

19 (6) By adding the following new subsection at
20 the end thereof:

21 “(h) NAS STUDY.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use
23 funds allocated in section 640(a)(C)(iii) to contract
24 with the National Academy of Sciences for the
25 Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the Na-



1 tional Research Council, and the Institute of Medi-
2 cine to establish an independent panel of experts to
3 review and synthesize research, theory and applica-
4 tions in the social, behavioral and biological sciences
5 and shall make recommendations on early childhood
6 pedagogy with regard to each of the following:

7 “(A) Age and developmentally appropriate
8 Head Start academic requirements and out-
9 comes, including but not limited to the domains
10 in 641A(a)(B).

11 “(B) Differences in the type, length, mix
12 and intensity of services necessary to ensure
13 that children from challenging family and social
14 backgrounds including: low-income children,
15 children of color, children with special needs,
16 and children with limited English proficiency
17 are and enter kindergarten ready to succeed.

18 “(C) Appropriate assessments of young
19 children for the purposes of improving instruc-
20 tion, services, and program quality, including
21 systematic observation assessment in a child’s
22 natural environment, parent and provider inter-
23 views, and accommodations for children with
24 disabilities and appropriate assessments for



1 children with special needs, including English
2 language learners.

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

5 “(A) Child development and education, in-
6 cluding cognitive, social, emotional, physical,
7 approaches to learning, and other domains of
8 child development and learning.

9 “(B) Professional development, including
10 teacher preparation, to individuals who teach
11 young children in programs.

12 “(C) Assessment of young children, includ-
13 ing screening, diagnostic and classroom-based
14 instructional assessment; children with special
15 needs, including children with disabilities and
16 limited English proficient children.

17 “(3) TIMING.—The Board and the Institute of
18 Medicine shall establish the panel not later than 90
19 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph.
20 The panel should complete its recommendations
21 within 18 months of its convening.

22 “(4) APPLICATION OF PANEL REPORT.—The
23 results of the panel study shall be used as guidelines
24 by the Secretary to develop, inform and revise,
25 where appropriate, the Head Start education per-



1 performance measures and standards and the assess-
2 ments utilized in the Head Start program.

3 **SEC. 114. REPORTS.**

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

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

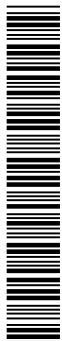
17 (2) Paragraph (8) of subsection (a) is amended
18 by inserting ", homelessness," after "background".

19 **SEC. 115. HEAD START NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS.**

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

22 **"SEC. 654. NONDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS.**

23 "(a)(1) The Secretary shall not provide financial as-
24 sistance for any program, project, or activity under this
25 subchapter unless the grant or contract with respect there-



1 to specifically provides that no person with responsibilities
2 in the operation thereof will discriminate with respect to
3 any such program, project, or activity because of race,
4 creed, color, national origin, sex, political affiliation, or be-
5 liefs.

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

15 “(b) No person in the United States shall on the
16 ground of sex be excluded from participation in, be denied
17 the benefits of, be subjected to discrimination under, or
18 be denied employment in connection with any program or
19 activity receiving assistance under this subchapter. The
20 Secretary shall enforce the provisions of the preceding sen-
21 tence in accordance with section 602 of the Civil Rights
22 Act of 1964. Section 603 of such Act shall apply with re-
23 spect to any action taken by the Secretary to enforce such
24 sentence. This section shall not be construed as affecting
25 any other legal remedy that a person may have if such

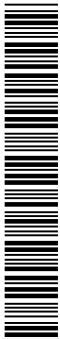


1 person is excluded from participation in, denied the benefit
2 of, subjected to discrimination under, or denied employ-
3 ment (except as provided in subsection (a)(2)), in the ad-
4 ministration of any program, project, or activity receiving
5 assistance under this subchapter.

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

15 **SEC. 116. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

16 The amendments made by this Act shall be effective
17 with respect to fiscal years beginning on and after October
18 1, 2003.



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

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

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

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

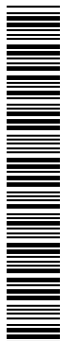
7 “(a) GRANTS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

23 “(C) State and locally appropriated funds
24 for prekindergarten services and Head Start
25 services in the fiscal year immediately preceding



1 the fiscal year for which the State applies for
2 the program under this section shall not be less
3 than XX percent of the Federal funds that the
4 grantees in the State received under this Act in
5 the immediately preceding fiscal year for serv-
6 ices to Head Start eligible children.

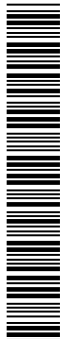
7 “(D) The State has established a means
8 for inter-agency coordination and collaboration
9 in the development of the plan under subsection
10 (h).

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

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

19 “(d) TRANSITION.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For 36 months after a
21 State receives approval to participate in a program
22 under this section, the State shall continue to pro-
23 vide funds to each local grantee who—



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

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

6 Such continuing grants shall be made in accordance
7 with the terms of the grant made to the local grant-
8 ee immediately prior to such date of enactment. This
9 paragraph shall not apply to a grant applicant who
10 has experienced substantial uncorrected deficiencies
11 on Department of Health and Human Services mon-
12 itoring reports during any year of the most recent
13 5-year period.

14 “(e) FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

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

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

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



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

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

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

19 “(A) BASIC STATE ALLOTMENTS.—
 20 Amounts allotted to States pursuant to section
 21 640(a)(4), including amounts reserved pursuant
 22 to section 640(a)(5).

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

14 “(A) the entire combined program; or

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

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



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

6 “(f) COORDINATION AND CHOICE.—

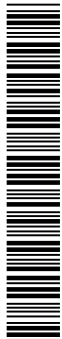
7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State demonstration
8 Program shall be coordinated with the education
9 programs of local educational agencies in the State
10 to ensure that the program is effectively designed to
11 develop in children in the program the knowledge
12 and behaviors necessary to transition successfully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

14 “(2) PROGRAMS CONCERNED.—

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

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

24 “(ii) State prekindergarten programs.



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

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

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

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

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

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



1 “(1) CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION.—
2 Activities with enrolled children that promote—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

6 “(4) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.—The plan shall
7 describe the services under subsection (f) to be pro-
8 vided in the program and arrangements the State
9 proposes to use to provide the services specified in
10 subsection (g).

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

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

23 “(A) PRIORITY FOR LOW-INCOME CHIL-
24 DREN.—Requirements established pursuant to
25 section 645(a) concerning the eligibility and pri-



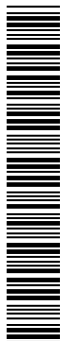
1 ority of individuals for participation in Head
2 Start programs.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

23 “(I) language skills;

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

3 “(12) STATE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.—

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

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

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

17 “(B) PUBLICATION OF RESULTS.—

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

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



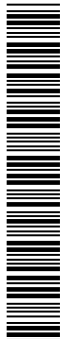
1 sults made public in accordance with
2 clause (i) shall be in aggregated form, and
3 shall not include information allowing iden-
4 tification of individual children.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

15 “(2) parents;

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

18 “(4) early childhood education professionals;

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

21 “(6) child welfare agencies;

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

23 “(8) child care providers; and



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

4 “(A) health care professionals;

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

9 “(C) institutions of higher education;

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

12 “(E) the business community;

13 “(F) State legislators and local officials;

14 “(G) museums and libraries;

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

16 and

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

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



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

3 “(m) FEDERAL OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY; CORREC-
4 TIVE ACTION; WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—

5 “(1) FEDERAL OVERSIGHT.—The Secretary
6 shall retain the authority to oversee the operation of
7 the State program under this section, including
8 through review of records and reports, audits, and
9 onsite inspection of records and facilities and moni-
10 toring of program activities and operations.

11 “(2) CORRECTION OF DEFICIENCIES.—If the
12 Secretary determines that a State program under
13 this section substantially fails to meet the require-
14 ments of this section, the Secretary shall notify the
15 State of the deficiencies identified and require cor-
16 rective action as follows:

17 “(A) DEFICIENCIES CAUSING IMMEDIATE
18 JEOPARDY.—The Secretary shall require imme-
19 diate corrective action to eliminate a deficiency
20 that the Secretary finds threatens the health or
21 safety of staff or program participants or poses
22 a threat to the integrity of Federal funds.

23 “(B) OTHER DEFICIENCIES.—The Sec-
24 retary, taking into consideration the nature and
25 magnitude of a deficiency not described in sub-



1 paragraph (A), and the time reasonably re-
2 quired for correction, may—

3 “(i) require the State to correct the
4 deficiency within 90 days after notification
5 under this paragraph; or

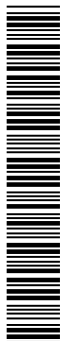
6 “(ii) require the State to implement a
7 quality improvement plan designed to cor-
8 rect the deficiency within one year from
9 identification of the deficiency.

10 “(3) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—If the defi-
11 ciencies identified under paragraph (2) are not cor-
12 rected by the deadlines established by the Secretary,
13 the Secretary shall initiate proceedings to withdraw
14 approval of the State program under this section.

15 “(4) PROCEDURAL RIGHTS.—A State subject to
16 adverse action under this subsection shall have the
17 same procedural rights as a Head Start agency sub-
18 ject to adverse action under section 641A.

19 “(n) EVALUATION.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-
21 tract with an independent organization outside of
22 the Department to design and conduct a multi-year,
23 rigorous, scientifically valid, quantitative evaluation
24 of the State demonstration program.



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

6 “(3) ANALYSIS.—The evaluation shall include
7 an analysis of each State participating in the State
8 demonstration program, including—

9 “(A) A quantitative description of the
10 State pre-kindergarten program and Head
11 Start programs within such State, as such pro-
12 grams existed prior to participation in the State
13 demonstration program, including:

14 “(i) data on the characteristics of the
15 children served, including the overall num-
16 ber and percentages of children served
17 disaggregated by socioeconomic status,
18 race and ethnicity of those served;

19 “(ii) the quality and characteristics of
20 the services provided to such children; and

21 “(iii) the education attainment of in-
22 structional staff.

23 “(B) A quantitative and qualitative de-
24 scription of the State program after each year



1 of participation in the State demonstration,
2 which shall include each of the following:

3 “(i) A description of changes in the
4 administration of the State program, in-
5 cluding the Head Start program, within
6 such State.

7 “(ii) The rate of progress of the State
8 in improving the school readiness of dis-
9 advantaged children in the key domains of
10 development.

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

13 “(iv) The extent to which each State
14 has met the goals established by such
15 State with respect to annual goals as de-
16 scribed under section 643(h)(10).

17 “(4) REPORT.—(A) The Secretary shall provide
18 an interim report on the progress of such evaluation
19 and of the progress of States participating in the
20 State demonstration in increasing the availability of
21 high quality pre-kindergarten services for low-income
22 children not later than October 1, 2006 to the Com-
23 mittee on Education and the Workforce in the
24 House of Representatives and the Committee on



1 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the Sen-
2 ate.

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

14 “(o) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
15 term ‘base year’ means the fiscal year 2003.”.

