

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to invest in funding prevention and family services to help keep children safe and supported at home with their families, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. WYDEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to invest in funding prevention and family services to help keep children safe and supported at home with their families, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Family Stability and Kinship Care Act of 2015”.

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

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Purpose.

Sec. 4. Time-limited family services under part E of title IV of the Social Security Act.

Sec. 5. Ensuring funding under part B of title IV of the Social Security Act for prevention and post-permanency support.

Sec. 6. Effective date.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) Our Nation's child welfare financing system
4 gives States and Indian Tribes few resources to in-
5 vest in prevention and family services that help keep
6 children safely at home or in the care of other family
7 members.

8 (2) Title IV-E of the Social Security Act cur-
9 rently provides States and Indian Tribes with man-
10 datory Federal funding support for children only
11 after they are placed in foster care. Title IV-E pro-
12 vides few incentives for State and tribal efforts to
13 prevent the need for out-of-home placements of chil-
14 dren or to reduce the time children spend in foster
15 care.

16 (3) In contrast, State and tribal innovations im-
17 plemented through title IV-E waivers suggest that
18 permitting State and tribal spending under title IV-
19 E for front end prevention and family services may
20 help reduce the prevalence and length of foster care
21 placements while maintaining or improving safety
22 and permanency outcomes for children.

1 (4) Additionally, State experiences with sub-
2 sidized guardianship demonstrate that when children
3 cannot remain with their parents, children placed
4 with relatives or kin experience greater stability than
5 children placed with non-relative foster families.
6 Kinship or relative care reduces the emotional trauma
7 associated with separation from parents, helps
8 keep siblings together, and preserves cultural heritage
9 and community bonds. Providing supportive
10 services to relatives and kin can reduce the number
11 of children entering or re-entering foster care.

12 (5) At the same time, current Federal funding
13 for broad, community-based, primary prevention programs
14 through title IV-B is too limited to adequately
15 reach the number of families in need.

16 (6) Greater access to prevention and family
17 services will help keep children safe and supported
18 at home with their parents or other family members,
19 give States and Indian Tribes the flexibility to adapt
20 evidence-based support services to the specific needs
21 of each family, and ensure that States and Indian
22 Tribes are held accountable for allocating services in
23 ways that maximize safety and permanency for children,
24 while minimizing the prevalence of lengthy foster
25 care placements.

1 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to enable States to provide
3 enhanced support to children and families and prevent fos-
4 ter care placements through the provision of time-limited
5 family services and expanded kinship supports.

6 **SEC. 4. TIME-LIMITED FAMILY SERVICES UNDER PART E OF**
7 **TITLE IV OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.**

8 (a) TIME-LIMITED FAMILY SERVICES DEFINED.—
9 Section 475 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 675) is amended by
10 adding at the end the following:

11 “(13)(A) The term ‘time-limited family services’
12 means supports and services that are among the
13 services and supports specified in subparagraph (B)
14 and that are provided to a child or to the parents
15 or potential or designated kin caregivers of a child
16 described in subparagraph (C) during a 12-month
17 period that begins on a date described in subpara-
18 graph (D). Such individuals shall remain eligible for
19 time-limited family services for a full 12-month pe-
20 riod without regard to whether any such individuals
21 cease to be described in subparagraph (C) after the
22 period begins.

23 “(B) The services and supports described in
24 this subparagraph are the following:

25 “(i) Parenting and family skills training
26 and parent education, including parent advo-

1 cates, peer-to-peer mentoring and support
2 groups for parents, primary caregivers, and po-
3 tential kinship caregivers.

4 “(ii) Individual, group, and family coun-
5 seling, mentoring, and therapy, including inten-
6 sive family preservation or reunification pro-
7 grams and trauma-informed care.

8 “(iii) Services or assistance to address bar-
9 riers to family preservation and reunification,
10 including mental health needs, domestic vio-
11 lence, substance abuse, and inadequate housing.

12 “(iv) Crisis assistance or services to sta-
13 bilize families in times of crisis or facilitate kin-
14 ship placement, such as transportation, cloth-
15 ing, household goods, assistance with housing
16 and utility payments, child care, respite care,
17 and assistance connecting families with other
18 community-based services.

19 “(C) Individuals described in this subparagraph
20 are the following:

21 “(i) A child who is a candidate for foster
22 care (as defined in paragraph 14) but can re-
23 main safely at home or in a kinship placement
24 with receipt of specified time-limited family
25 services.

1 “(ii) A child in foster care (without regard
2 to whether the child is or would be eligible for
3 payments under section 472 or 473).

4 “(iii) A child in foster care who is a preg-
5 nant or parenting foster youth.

6 “(iv) Parents or potential or designated
7 kin caregivers of a child described in clause (i),
8 (ii), or (iii) when their service needs are directly
9 related to the safety, permanence, or well-being
10 of the child or to the child’s ability not to enter
11 or re-enter foster care.

12 “(D) The dates described in this subparagraph
13 are the following:

14 “(i) The date on which a child is identified
15 in a case plan as a child who is a candidate for
16 foster care (as defined in paragraph (14)).

17 “(ii) The date on which a child is consid-
18 ered to have entered foster care pursuant to
19 paragraph (5)(F).

20 “(iii) The date on which a child is identi-
21 fied in a case plan as a pregnant or parenting
22 foster youth in need of time-limited family serv-
23 ices.

24 “(14) The term ‘child who is a candidate for foster
25 care’ means, a child who is identified in a case plan as

1 being at imminent risk of entering or re-entering foster
2 care (without regard to whether the child is or would be
3 eligible for payments under section 472 or 473) but who
4 can remain safely in the child’s current home or in a kin-
5 ship placement as long as the time-limited family services
6 that are necessary to prevent the child’s entry or reentry
7 into foster care are provided. Such term includes a child
8 whose adoption or guardianship arrangement is at risk of
9 a disruption or dissolution that would result in a foster
10 care placement.”.

11 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—Section 471 of such Act (42
12 U.S.C. 671) is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “and” and
14 all that follows through the semicolon and inserting
15 “, adoption assistance in accordance with section
16 473, and, at the option of the State, time-limited
17 family services in accordance with subsection (e);”;
18 and

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

20 “(e) REQUIREMENTS FOR TIME-LIMITED FAMILY
21 SERVICES.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State may provide time-
23 limited family services (as defined in section
24 475(13)) to individuals described in subparagraph
25 (C) of section 475(13) only if the State—

1 “(A) submits as part of the State plan re-
2 quired under subsection (a) a time-limited fam-
3 ily services plan component that meets the re-
4 quirements of paragraph (2); and

5 “(B) satisfies the general requirements
6 specified in paragraph (3) and the maintenance
7 of effort requirements specified in (5).

8 “(2) TIME-LIMITED FAMILY SERVICES PLAN
9 COMPONENT.—In order to meet the requirements of
10 this paragraph, a time-limited family services plan
11 component shall include, with respect to each 5-year
12 period for which the plan component is in operation
13 in the State, the following:

14 “(A) How the State intends to utilize the
15 Federal funding available for providing time-
16 limited family services, including a description
17 of how Federal funds provided for such services
18 will be used to supplement, and not supplant,
19 the level of State and local funds expended for
20 child welfare.

21 “(B) How providing time-limited family
22 services is expected to improve outcomes for
23 children and families, including which specific
24 outcomes the State expects to achieve and the

1 means by which those outcomes will be mon-
2 itored.

3 “(C) How the State will monitor and over-
4 see the safety of children who receive time-lim-
5 ited family services, including through periodic
6 risk assessments throughout the period in
7 which such services are provided on behalf of a
8 child remaining at home and re-examination of
9 the plan for service provision on behalf of a
10 child remaining at home or in foster care if
11 there is a determination that the child’s risk of
12 entering or re-entering into foster care, or of
13 being prevented from exiting foster care, re-
14 mains high over the course of the provision of
15 such services.

16 “(D) Information on the specific evidence-
17 based programs and promising practice models
18 the State plans to implement to provide time-
19 limited family services, including a description
20 of—

21 “(i) each such program or model;

22 “(ii) how the State plans to imple-
23 ment each such program or model;

24 “(iii) how the State selected such pro-
25 grams or models; and

1 “(iv) the target population for each
2 model.

3 “(E) A description of the collaboration be-
4 tween the State agencies responsible for admin-
5 istering the State plans under this part and
6 part B and the State agency responsible for ad-
7 ministering the State plan under title XIX, as
8 well as with other public and private agencies
9 with experience in administering child and fam-
10 ily services, including community-based organi-
11 zations, in order to foster a continuum of care
12 and services available for children and families.

13 “(F) A description of how the State shall
14 assess children and families to determine eligi-
15 bility for time-limited family services.

16 “(G) A description of training and support
17 for caseworkers handling prevention cases, in-
18 cluding how caseload size and type will be de-
19 termined, managed, and overseen.

20 “(H) A description of training and support
21 for parents or potential or designated kin care-
22 givers of a child eligible for time-limited family
23 services.

1 “(3) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.—The general
2 requirements for providing time-limited family serv-
3 ices specified in this paragraph are the following:

4 “(A) SPECIFIED SERVICES IN ADVANCE OF
5 PROVISION.—

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
7 vided in clause (ii), the specific services
8 necessary to prevent the child’s entry or
9 reentry into foster care or enable the
10 child’s exit from foster care to be reunified
11 with their family or placed with kin are
12 specified in the child’s case plan in advance
13 of the provision of such services.

14 “(ii) EXCEPTION FOR EMERGENCY OR
15 OTHER EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES.—Clause
16 (i) shall not apply to the provision of time-
17 limited family services in emergency or exi-
18 gent circumstances but the provision of
19 such services shall be included in the
20 child’s case plan as soon as practicable
21 after the provision of the services.

22 “(B) PROMISING AND EVIDENCE-BASED
23 PROGRAMS, ASSISTANCE, OR SERVICES.—

24 “(i) EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS, AS-
25 SISTANCE, OR SERVICES.—Not later than

1 shall issue guidance to States that
2 specifies the level of evidence required
3 for a program, service, or form of as-
4 sistance to satisfy the requirements of
5 this subparagraph, and contains a
6 pre-approved list of programs, services
7 and forms of assistance that meet
8 such criteria or satisfy such require-
9 ments.

10 “(II) UPDATES.—The Secretary
11 shall issue updates to the guidance re-
12 quired under this clause as often as
13 the Secretary determines necessary.

14 “(C) PAYMENT ONLY IF NO OTHER FED-
15 ERAL FUNDING AVAILABLE.—Payment under
16 section 474(a)(6) for expenditures for time-lim-
17 ited family services shall not duplicate other
18 Federal funding sources for services and sup-
19 ports that are provided as time-limited family
20 services and shall only be made to the extent
21 that payment for services and supports provided
22 as time-limited family services cannot reason-
23 ably be expected to be available under another
24 federally funded program within a reasonable
25 time given the needs of the child and the child’s

1 family during the child's 12-month eligibility
2 period.

3 “(D) OUTCOME ASSESSMENT AND REPORT-
4 ING.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The State shall
6 collect and report to the Secretary the fol-
7 lowing with respect to each child for whom,
8 or on whose behalf, time-limited family
9 services are provided during a 12-month
10 period:

11 “(I) With respect to each cat-
12 egory of services and supports de-
13 scribed in section 475(13)(B), the
14 specific services provided and the total
15 expenditures for each such service.

16 “(II) The child's placement sta-
17 tus at the beginning, and at the end,
18 of the period, respectively.

19 “(III) The child's placement sta-
20 tus 1 year after the end of the period.

21 “(ii) SIBLINGS.—If time-limited fam-
22 ily services are provided over a 12-month
23 period to or on behalf of 2 or more sib-
24 lings, the aggregate amount of expendi-
25 tures for such services to be reported

1 under clause (i)(I) may be allocated to 1
2 sibling or divided among such siblings so
3 long as such siblings are all included in
4 calculation of the per-child spending meas-
5 ure under paragraph (4)(A)(i)(III).

6 “(4) AUTHORIZATION FOR OUTCOMES-RE-
7 WARDED INCREASED MATCH.—

8 “(A) NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MEAS-
9 URES.—

10 “(i) ESTABLISHMENT; ANNUAL UP-
11 DATES.—Beginning with fiscal year 2021,
12 and annually thereafter, the Secretary
13 shall establish the following national per-
14 formance measures:

15 “(I) PERCENTAGES OF CAN-
16 DIDATES WHO DO NOT SUBSE-
17 QUENTLY ENTER FOSTER CARE.—

18 With respect to all children for whom,
19 or on whose behalf, time-limited fam-
20 ily services are provided during any
21 12-month period, the percentages of
22 such children initially determined to
23 be candidates for foster care who do
24 not enter a foster care placement
25 (other than a kinship placement) dur-

1 ing such period and through the end
2 of the succeeding 12-month-period.

3 “(II) PERCENTAGES OF CHIL-
4 DREN WHO LEAVE FOSTER CARE FOR
5 REUNIFICATION, KINSHIP PLACE-
6 MENT, GUARDIANSHIP, OR ADOP-
7 TION.—With respect to all children
8 for whom, or on whose behalf, time-
9 limited family services are provided
10 during any 12-month period, the per-
11 centages of such children who are ini-
12 tially in a foster care placement who
13 are returned to, or are placed with a
14 biological or adoptive parent or in a
15 kinship placement or guardianship at
16 the end of such period and who re-
17 main in each such placement through
18 the end of the succeeding 12-month-
19 period.

20 “(III) PER-CHILD SPENDING ON
21 TIME-LIMITED FAMILY SERVICES.—
22 With respect to each 12-month period
23 for which percentages are determined
24 under subclauses (I) and (II) (other
25 than a percentage determined for a

1 succeeding 12-month period), the total
2 amount of expenditures for providing
3 time-limited family services for, or on
4 behalf of, each child during the pe-
5 riod.

6 “(ii) DATA.—The Secretary shall es-
7 tablish and update the national perform-
8 ance measures—

9 “(I) based on the median State
10 values of the information reported
11 under each subclause of clause (i) for
12 the 3 most recent years; and

13 “(II) taking into account State
14 differences in the price levels of con-
15 sumption goods and services using the
16 most recent regional price parities
17 published by the Bureau of Economic
18 Analysis of the Department of Com-
19 merce or such other data as the Sec-
20 retary determines appropriate.

21 “(iii) PUBLICATION OF STATE PER-
22 FORMANCE.—The Secretary shall annually
23 make available to the public each State’s
24 performance with respect to the national
25 performance measures.

1 “(B) APPLICATION TO MATCHING RATE.—

2 “(i) CRITERIA FOR INCREASE.—Be-
3 ginning with fiscal year 2022, the Federal
4 percentage applicable to payments to a
5 State for a fiscal year under section
6 474(a)(6) for expenditures attributable to
7 time-limited family services shall be in-
8 creased by such number of percentage
9 points (not to exceed 10 percentage points)
10 as the Secretary shall determine, for any
11 State for which—

12 “(I) each of the State-specific
13 percentages described in subclauses
14 (I) and (II) of subparagraph (A)(i)
15 are greater than the national average
16 percentages determined under such
17 subclauses for the preceding fiscal
18 year; and

19 “(II) the State-specific per child
20 spending amount described in sub-
21 clause (III) of subparagraph (A)(i) is
22 less than the national average amount
23 determined under that subclause for
24 the preceding fiscal year.

1 for an increase in its applicable Federal
2 matching rate under section 474(a)(6) for
3 a fiscal year, or shall not be subject to a
4 reduction in that rate for a fiscal year, un-
5 less the State satisfies both of the condi-
6 tions specified in clause (i) or (ii) (as ap-
7 plicable).

8 “(5) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—

9 “(A) CERTIFICATION.—The Governor of a
10 State shall certify that payments under this
11 part for time-limited family services are used to
12 supplement, and not supplant, the level of State
13 and local funds expended for child welfare for
14 fiscal year 2015.

15 “(B) STATE REPORTS.—A State shall fur-
16 nish reports to the Secretary, at such times, in
17 such format, and containing such information
18 as the Secretary may require, that demonstrate
19 the State’s compliance with subparagraph (A).

20 “(6) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH
21 THE PROVISION OF TIME-LIMITED FAMILY SERV-
22 ICES.—Expenditures described in paragraph (6) or
23 (7) of section 474(a)—

24 “(A) shall not be eligible for payment
25 under paragraph (3) of section 474(a); and

1 “(B) shall be eligible for payment without
2 regard to whether such expenditures are in-
3 curred on behalf of a child who is, or is poten-
4 tially, eligible for assistance payments under
5 this part.

6 “(7) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
7 this subsection shall be construed to reduce or limit
8 the responsibility of the State agency responsible for
9 administering the State plan approved under title
10 XIX to administer and provide care and services for
11 children with respect to whom services are provided
12 under the State plan developed pursuant to this sub-
13 part.”.

14 (c) PAYMENTS UNDER TITLE IV-E.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 474(a) of the Social
16 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 674(a)) is amended—

17 (A) in paragraph (5), by striking the pe-
18 riod at the end and inserting “; plus”; and

19 (B) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(6) subject to section 471(e), for each quarter
21 beginning after September 30, 2015, an amount
22 equal to the Federal medical assistance percentage
23 (which shall be as defined in section 1905(b), in the
24 case of a State other than the District of Columbia,
25 or 70 percent, in the case of the District of Colum-

1 bia) of the total amount expended during such quar-
2 ter for the provision of time-limited family services
3 (as defined in section 475(13) (or, with respect to
4 such payments made during such quarter under a
5 cooperative agreement or contract entered into by
6 the State and an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or
7 tribal consortium for the administration or payment
8 of funds under this part, an amount equal to the
9 Federal medical assistance percentage that would
10 apply under section 479B(d) (in this paragraph re-
11 ferred to as the ‘tribal FMAP’) if such Indian tribe,
12 tribal organization, or tribal consortium made such
13 payments under a program operated under that sec-
14 tion, unless the tribal FMAP is less than the Fed-
15 eral medical assistance percentage that applies to
16 the State); plus

17 “(7) subject to section 471(e)(6), for each quar-
18 ter beginning after September 30, 2015, an amount
19 equal to the sum of the following proportions of the
20 total amount expended during such quarter—

21 “(A) 50 percent of so much of such ex-
22 penditures as found necessary by the Secretary
23 for the proper and efficient administration of
24 the State plan for the provision of time-limited
25 family services (as defined in section 475(13)),

1 including expenditures for activities approved
2 by the Secretary that promote the development
3 of necessary infrastructure to establish and im-
4 plement the provision of time-limited family
5 services for individuals who are eligible for such
6 services; and

7 “(B) 50 percent of so much of such ex-
8 penditures as are for training of personnel em-
9 ployed or preparing for employment by the
10 State agency or by the local agency admin-
11 istering the plan in the political subdivision,
12 with respect to the provision of time-limited
13 family services, including on how to determine
14 who are individuals eligible for such services,
15 how to identify and provide appropriate time-
16 limited family services, and how to oversee and
17 evaluate the ongoing appropriateness of such
18 services.”.

19 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (i)
20 of section 472 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 672) is
21 amended by adding after and below paragraph
22 (2)(B) of such subsection the following flush sen-
23 tence:

1 “Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to Federal match-
2 ing payments for administrative expenditures that are eli-
3 gible for payment under section 474(a)(7).”.

4 (d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DATA COLLECTION,
5 AND EVALUATION.—Section 476 of the Social Security
6 Act (42 U.S.C. 676) is amended by adding at the end the
7 following:

8 “(d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DATA COLLECTION,
9 AND EVALUATIONS RELATING TO TIME-LIMITED FAMILY
10 SERVICES.—

11 “(1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE; BEST PRAC-
12 TICES.—The Secretary shall provide to States and,
13 as applicable, to Indian tribes, tribal organizations,
14 and tribal consortia, technical assistance regarding
15 the provision of time-limited family services under
16 this part and shall disseminate best practices with
17 respect to the provision of such services.

18 “(2) DATA COLLECTION AND EVALUATIONS.—
19 The Secretary, directly or through grants, contracts,
20 or interagency agreements, shall collect data and
21 conduct research and evaluations with respect to the
22 provision of time-limited family services under this
23 part for purposes of assessing the extent to which
24 the provision of such services reduces the prevalence
25 and length of foster care placements and improves

1 safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for
2 children on whose behalf services or assistance are
3 provided under this part.

4 “(3) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
6 submit to the Committee on Ways and Means
7 of the House of Representatives and the Com-
8 mittee on Finance of the Senate periodic re-
9 ports based on the provision of time-limited
10 family services under this part and the activi-
11 ties carried out under this subsection.

12 “(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Sec-
13 retary shall make the reports to Congress sub-
14 mitted under this paragraph publicly available.

15 “(4) APPROPRIATION.—There is appropriated
16 to the Secretary, out of any money in the Treasury
17 of the United States not otherwise appropriated,
18 \$2,500,000 for fiscal year 2016 and each fiscal year
19 thereafter to carry out this subsection.”.

20 (e) APPLICATION TO PROGRAMS OPERATED BY IN-
21 DIAN TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 479B of the Social
23 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 679c) is amended—

24 (A) in subsection (c)(1)—

25 (i) in subparagraph (C)(i)—

1 (I) in subclause (II), by striking
2 “and” after the semicolon;

3 (II) in subclause (III), by strik-
4 ing the period at the end and insert-
5 ing “; and”; and

6 (III) by adding at the end the
7 following:

8 “(IV) at the option of the tribe,
9 organization, or consortium, time-lim-
10 ited family services (as defined in sec-
11 tion 475(13)) to individuals described
12 in subparagraph (C) of section
13 475(13), in accordance with section
14 471(e) and subparagraph (E).”; and

15 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(E) TIME-LIMITED FAMILY SERVICES.—

18 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a
19 tribe, organization, or consortium that
20 elects to provide time-limited family serv-
21 ices (as defined in section 475(13)) to indi-
22 viduals described in subparagraph (C) of
23 section 475(13) under the plan, the Sec-
24 retary shall specify the requirements appli-
25 cable to the provision of such services.

1 Such requirements shall, to the greatest
2 extent practicable, be consistent with the
3 requirements applicable to States under
4 section 471(e) and shall permit the provi-
5 sion of such services in the form of pro-
6 grams, assistance, or services that are
7 adapted to the culture and context of the
8 tribal communities served.

9 “(ii) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—The
10 Secretary shall establish specific perform-
11 ance measures for each tribe, organization,
12 or consortium that elects to provide time-
13 limited family services. The performance
14 measures shall, to the greatest extent prac-
15 ticable, be consistent with the national per-
16 formance measures required for States
17 under paragraph (4)(A) of section 471(e)
18 but shall allow for consideration of factors
19 unique to the provision of such services by
20 tribes, organizations, or consortia.”; and

21 (B) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “and
22 (5)” and inserting “(5), and (6)”.

23 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading
24 for subsection (d) of section 479B of such Act (42
25 U.S.C. 679c) is amended by striking “FOR FOSTER

1 CARE MAINTENANCE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE
2 PAYMENTS”.

3 (f) MODERNIZING THE TITLE AND PURPOSE OF
4 TITLE IV-E.—

5 (1) PART HEADING.—The heading for part E of
6 title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670
7 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

8 **“PART E—FEDERAL PAYMENTS FOR FOSTER
9 CARE AND PERMANENCY”.**

10 (2) PURPOSE.—The first sentence of section
11 470 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670) is
12 amended—

13 (A) by striking “and” before “adoption as-
14 sistance” and inserting a comma;

15 (B) by inserting “kinship guardianship as-
16 sistance, and time-limited family services,” after
17 “needs,”; and

18 (C) by striking “(commencing with the fis-
19 cal year which begins October 1, 1980)”.

20 **SEC. 5. ENSURING FUNDING UNDER PART B OF TITLE IV OF
21 THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT FOR PREVEN-
22 TION AND POST-PERMANENCY SUPPORT.**

23 (a) ELIMINATION OF TIME-LIMIT FOR FAMILY RE-
24 UNIFICATION SERVICES.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 431(a)(7) of the So-
2 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)(7)) is amend-
3 ed—

4 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking
5 “TIME-LIMITED FAMILY” and inserting “FAM-
6 ILY”; and

7 (B) in subparagraph (A)—

8 (i) by striking “time-limited family”
9 and inserting “family”; and

10 (ii) by striking “, but only during the
11 15-month period that begins on the date
12 that the child, pursuant to section
13 475(5)(F), is considered to have entered
14 foster care”.

15 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

16 (A) Section 430 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
17 629) is amended in the matter preceding para-
18 graph (1), by striking “time-limited”.

19 (B) Subsections (a)(4), (a)(5)(A), and
20 (b)(1) of section 432 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
21 629b) are amended by striking “time-limited”
22 each place it appears.

23 (b) MANDATORY FUNDING FOR THE PROMOTING
24 SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES (PSSF) PROGRAM.—

25 (1) IN GENERAL.—

1 (A) APPROPRIATION FOR FISCAL YEAR
2 2016.—Section 436(a) of the Social Security Act
3 (42 U.S.C. 629f(a)) is amended by striking
4 “are authorized” and all that follows through
5 the period and inserting “is appropriated
6 \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2016.”.

7 (B) INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR EVALUA-
8 TION, RESEARCH, TRAINING AND TECHNICAL
9 ASSISTANCE AND STATE COURT IMPROVE-
10 MENTS.—Section 436(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
11 629f(b)) is amended—

12 (i) in paragraph (1), in the matter
13 preceding subparagraph (A), by striking
14 “\$6,000,000” and inserting
15 “\$10,000,000”; and

16 (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking
17 “\$30,000,000” and inserting
18 “\$33,000,000”.

19 (C) INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR STATE
20 COURT ASSESSMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS.—
21 Section 438(c)(3)(A)(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
22 629h(c)(3)(A)(i)) is amended by striking
23 “\$9,000,000” and inserting “\$12,000,000”.

1 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
2 437(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 629g(a)) is amended
3 by striking “2016” and inserting “2015”.

4 (c) SPENDING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 432(a)(4)
5 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629b(a)(4)) is
6 amended by striking “, with significant portions of such
7 expenditures for each such program” and inserting “with
8 at least 25 percent of the expenditures made for adoption
9 promotion and support services”.

10 (d) RESEARCH, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND GUID-
11 ANCE ON PROMISING PROGRAM MODELS AND EVIDENCE-
12 BASED PROGRAMS.—Section 435(c) of such Act (42
13 U.S.C. 629e(c)) is amended—

14 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
15 (1);

16 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
17 graph (2) and inserting “; and”; and

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

19 “(3) beginning with fiscal year 2016,
20 \$4,000,000 for research on promising programs, in-
21 cluding culturally-specific adaptations, to identify
22 additional evidence-based prevention and interven-
23 tion programs that prevent child abuse and neglect,
24 reduce the likelihood of foster care placement by
25 supporting birth families and kinship families, in-

1 crease family reunification with parents or other kin,
2 improve targeted supports for pregnant and par-
3 enting teens and their children, and promote post-
4 permanency placement stability for children living
5 with relatives or non-related caregivers, and for pro-
6 viding technical assistance and guidance to States
7 with respect to such programs.”.

8 (e) FAMILY CONNECTION GRANTS.—

9 (1) REAUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING FOR FIS-
10 CAL YEAR 2016.—Section 427(h) of the Social Secu-
11 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 627(h)) is amended by inserting
12 “, and \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2016” after
13 “2014”.

14 (2) INCLUSION OF OTHER FAMILY STABILITY
15 PROGRAMS.—Section 427(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
16 627(a)) is amended—

17 (A) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking “or”
18 after the semicolon;

19 (B) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking the
20 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

21 (C) by inserting after paragraph (4)(B)
22 the following:

23 “(5) other programs with evidence to support
24 their effectiveness at preventing foster care place-

1 ment or supporting family stability post-permanency
2 (or both).”.

3 **SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the
5 amendments made by this Act take effect on October 1,
6 2015.

7 (b) TRANSITION RULE.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a State plan
9 under part B or E of title IV of the Social Security
10 Act which the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
11 ices determines requires State legislation (other than
12 legislation appropriating funds) in order for the plan
13 to meet the additional requirements imposed by the
14 amendments made by this Act, the State plan shall
15 not be regarded as failing to comply with the re-
16 quirements of such part solely on the basis of the
17 failure of the plan to meet such additional require-
18 ments before the first day of the first calendar quar-
19 ter beginning after the close of the first regular ses-
20 sion of the State legislature that begins after the
21 date of enactment of this Act. For purposes of the
22 previous sentence, in the case of a State that has a
23 2-year legislative session, each year of such session
24 shall be deemed to be a separate regular session of
25 the State legislature.

1 (2) APPLICATION TO PROGRAMS OPERATED BY
2 INDIAN TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—In the case of an
3 Indian tribe, tribal organization, or tribal consortium
4 which the Secretary of Health and Human Services
5 determines requires time to take action necessary to
6 comply with the additional requirements imposed by
7 the amendments made by this Act (whether the
8 tribe, organization, or tribal consortium has a plan
9 under section 479B of the Social Security Act or a
10 cooperative agreement or contract entered into with
11 a State), the Secretary shall provide the tribe, orga-
12 nization, or tribal consortium with such additional
13 time as the Secretary determines is necessary for the
14 tribe, organization, or tribal consortium to take such
15 action before being regarded as failing to comply
16 with such requirements.