

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 1160

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## AN ACT

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act  
to increase support for mental health.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Family  
3 Mental Health in CAPTA Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION  
5                   AND TREATMENT ACT.**

6       (a) NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE.—Section 103(b) of  
7 the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.  
8 5104(b)) is amended—

9           (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “effective pro-  
10 grams,” and inserting “evidence-based and evidence-  
11 informed programs,”;

12           (2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through  
13 (9) as paragraphs (6) through (10), respectively;  
14 and

15           (3) by inserting after paragraph (4), the fol-  
16 lowing:

17           “(5) maintain and disseminate, as appropriate,  
18 information that describes best practices for making  
19 appropriate referrals related to, and addressing, the  
20 health, mental health, and developmental needs of  
21 victims of child abuse or neglect;”.

22       (b) RESEARCH AND ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES.—Sec-  
23 tion 104 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment  
24 Act (42 U.S.C. 5105) is amended—

25           (1) in subsection (a)—

26           (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) by striking subparagraph (F) and  
 2 inserting the following:

3 “(F) effective approaches to interagency  
 4 collaboration between the child welfare protec-  
 5 tion system, the juvenile justice system, and  
 6 other relevant agencies engaged with children  
 7 and families that improve the delivery of serv-  
 8 ices and treatment (including related to domes-  
 9 tic violence, mental health, or substance use dis-  
 10 orders) for continuity of treatment plan and  
 11 services as children transition between sys-  
 12 tems;”;

13 (ii) by redesignating subparagraphs  
 14 (N) and (O) as subparagraphs (P) and  
 15 (Q), respectively;

16 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph  
 17 (M) the following:

18 “(N) methods to address geographic, ra-  
 19 cial, and cultural disparities in the child welfare  
 20 system, including a focus on access to services;

21 “(O) evidence-based and evidence-informed  
 22 programs to prevent child abuse and neglect in  
 23 families that have not had contact with the  
 24 child welfare system;” and

1 (iv) in subparagraph (P), as redesignated by clause (ii), by striking “subpara-

2 graph (O)” and inserting “subparagraph

3 (Q)”;

4 and

5 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “para-

6 graph (1)(O)” and inserting “paragraph

7 (1)(Q)”;

8 and

9 (2) in subsection (b)—

10 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and

11 (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

12 (B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the

13 following:

14 “(2) CONTENT.—The technical assistance

15 under paragraph (1) shall be designed to, as applica-

16 ble, promote best practices for addressing child

17 abuse and neglect in families with complex needs,

18 such as families who have experienced domestic vio-

19 lence, substance use disorders, and adverse child-

20 hood experiences.”;

21 and

22 (C) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated—

23 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking

24 “and” after the semicolon;

25 (ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking

the period at the end and inserting “;

and”;

and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(E) ways to reduce geographic, racial,  
4 and cultural disparities in the child protection  
5 system, which may include engaging law en-  
6 forcement, education, health, and other relevant  
7 systems in such efforts.”.

8 (c) GRANTS TO STATES.—Section 106 of the Child  
9 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a)  
10 is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) in paragraph (6)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
14 “and” after the semicolon; and

15 (ii) by striking subparagraph (D) and  
16 inserting the following:

17 “(D) training in early childhood, child, and  
18 adolescent development and the impact of child  
19 abuse and neglect, and the long-term impacts of  
20 adverse childhood experiences; and

21 “(E) training to improve coordination  
22 among child protective service agencies, entities  
23 providing health care services (including mental  
24 health and substance use disorder services), and  
25 community resources, for purposes of con-

1           ducting evaluations related to substantiated  
2           cases of child abuse or neglect; and

3           “(F) training regarding the links between  
4           child abuse and neglect and domestic violence,  
5           and approaches to working with families with  
6           mental health needs or substance use dis-  
7           order;”.

8           (d) APPLICATION.—Section 204(7) of the Child  
9   Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.  
10 5116d(7)) is amended to read as follows:

11           “(7) a description of the criteria that the entity  
12       will use to—

13           “(A) select and fund local programs, and  
14           how the lead entity will take into consideration  
15           the local program’s ability to—

16           “(i) collaborate with other community-  
17           based organizations and service providers  
18           and engage in long-term and strategic  
19           planning with respect to community-based  
20           and prevention-focused programs and ac-  
21           tivities designed to strengthen and support  
22           families to prevent child abuse and neglect;

23           “(ii) meaningfully partner with par-  
24           ents in the development, implementation,  
25           oversight, and evaluation of services;

1 “(iii) reduce barriers to access to com-  
 2 munity-based and prevention-focused pro-  
 3 grams and activities designed to strength-  
 4 en and support families to prevent child  
 5 abuse and neglect, including for diverse,  
 6 underserved, and at-risk populations; or

7 “(B) develop or provide community-based  
 8 and prevention-focused programs and activities  
 9 designed to strengthen and support families to  
 10 prevent child abuse and neglect, and provide a  
 11 description of how such activities are evidence-  
 12 based or evidence-informed;”.

13 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

14 The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42  
 15 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) is amended—

16 (1) in section 3, by amending paragraph (5) to  
 17 read as follows:

18 “(5) the terms ‘Indian’, ‘Indian Tribe’, and  
 19 ‘Tribal organization’ have the meanings given the  
 20 terms ‘Indian’, ‘Indian tribe’, and ‘tribal organiza-  
 21 tion’, respectively, in section 4 of the Indian Self-De-  
 22 termination and Education Assistance Act (25  
 23 U.S.C. 450b);”;

1           (2) by striking “tribe” each place such term ap-  
2       pears (other than in section 3(5)) and inserting  
3       “Tribe”; and

4           (3) by striking “tribal” each place such term  
5       appears (other than in section 3(5)) and inserting  
6       “Tribal”.

Passed the Senate September 17, 2020.

Attest:

*Secretary.*





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