

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2834

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## AN ACT

To improve the well-being of, and improve permanency outcomes for, children and families affected by heroin, opioids, and other substance abuse.

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 “Partnership Grants  
3 to Strengthen Families Affected by Parental Substance  
4 Abuse Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENTS TO GRANTS TO IMPROVE WELL-  
6 BEING OF FAMILIES AFFECTED BY SUB-  
7 STANCE ABUSE.**

8 Section 437(f) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
9 629g(f)) is amended—

10 (1) in the subsection heading, by striking “IN-  
11 CREASE THE WELL-BEING OF, AND TO IMPROVE  
12 THE PERMANENCY OUTCOMES FOR, CHILDREN AF-  
13 FECTED BY” and inserting “IMPLEMENT IV–E PRE-  
14 VENTION SERVICES, AND IMPROVE THE WELL-  
15 BEING OF, AND IMPROVE PERMANENCY OUTCOMES  
16 FOR, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY HER-  
17 OIN, OPIOIDS, AND OTHER”;

18 (2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the  
19 following:

20 “(2) REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP DEFINED.—In  
21 this subsection, the term ‘regional partnership’  
22 means a collaborative agreement (which may be es-  
23 tablished on an interstate, State, or intrastate basis)  
24 entered into by the following:

25 “(A) MANDATORY PARTNERS FOR ALL  
26 PARTNERSHIP GRANTS.—

1           “(i) The State child welfare agency  
2           that is responsible for the administration  
3           of the State plan under this part and part  
4           E.

5           “(ii) The State agency responsible for  
6           administering the substance abuse preven-  
7           tion and treatment block grant provided  
8           under subpart II of part B of title XIX of  
9           the Public Health Service Act.

10           “(B) MANDATORY PARTNERS FOR PART-  
11           NERSHIP GRANTS PROPOSING TO SERVE CHIL-  
12           DREN IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS.—If the  
13           partnership proposes to serve children in out-of-  
14           home placements, the Juvenile Court or Admin-  
15           istrative Office of the Court that is most appro-  
16           priate to oversee the administration of court  
17           programs in the region to address the popu-  
18           lation of families who come to the attention of  
19           the court due to child abuse or neglect.

20           “(C) OPTIONAL PARTNERS.—At the option  
21           of the partnership, any of the following:

22           “(i) An Indian tribe or tribal consor-  
23           tium.

24           “(ii) Nonprofit child welfare service  
25           providers.

1           “(iii) For-profit child welfare service  
2 providers.

3           “(iv) Community health service pro-  
4 viders, including substance abuse treat-  
5 ment providers.

6           “(v) Community mental health pro-  
7 viders.

8           “(vi) Local law enforcement agencies.

9           “(vii) School personnel.

10          “(viii) Tribal child welfare agencies  
11 (or a consortia of the agencies).

12          “(ix) Any other providers, agencies,  
13 personnel, officials, or entities that are re-  
14 lated to the provision of child and family  
15 services under a State plan approved under  
16 this subpart.

17          “(D) EXCEPTION FOR REGIONAL PART-  
18 NERSHIPS WHERE THE LEAD APPLICANT IS AN  
19 INDIAN TRIBE OR TRIBAL CONSORTIA.—If an  
20 Indian tribe or tribal consortium enters into a  
21 regional partnership for purposes of this sub-  
22 section, the Indian tribe or tribal consortium—

23           “(i) may (but is not required to) in-  
24 clude the State child welfare agency as a  
25 partner in the collaborative agreement;

1           “(ii) may not enter into a collabo-  
2           rative agreement only with tribal child wel-  
3           fare agencies (or a consortium of the agen-  
4           cies); and

5           “(iii) if the condition described in  
6           paragraph (2)(B) applies, may include  
7           tribal court organizations in lieu of other  
8           judicial partners.”;

9           (3) in paragraph (3)—

10           (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
11           “\$500,000 and not more than \$1,000,000” and  
12           inserting “\$250,000 and not more than  
13           \$1,000,000”;

14           (B) in subparagraph (B)—

15           (i) in the subparagraph heading, by  
16           inserting “; PLANNING” after “APPROVAL”;

17           (ii) in clause (i), by striking “clause  
18           (ii)” and inserting “clauses (ii) and (iii)”;

19           and

20           (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
21           lowing:

22           “(iii) SUFFICIENT PLANNING.—A  
23           grant awarded under this subsection shall  
24           be disbursed in two phases: a planning  
25           phase (not to exceed 2 years) and an im-

1           plementation phase. The total disburse-  
2           ment to a grantee for the planning phase  
3           may not exceed \$250,000, and may not ex-  
4           ceed the total anticipated funding for the  
5           implementation phase.”; and

6           (C) by adding at the end the following:

7           “(D) LIMITATION ON PAYMENT FOR A FIS-  
8           CAL YEAR.—No payment shall be made under  
9           subparagraph (A) or (C) for a fiscal year until  
10          the Secretary determines that the eligible part-  
11          nership has made sufficient progress in meeting  
12          the goals of the grant and that the members of  
13          the eligible partnership are coordinating to a  
14          reasonable degree with the other members of  
15          the eligible partnership.”;

16          (4) in paragraph (4)—

17                 (A) in subparagraph (B)—

18                         (i) in clause (i), by inserting “, par-  
19                         ents, and families” after “children”;

20                         (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “safety  
21                         and permanence for such children; and”  
22                         and inserting “safe, permanent caregiving  
23                         relationships for the children;”;

24                         (iii) in clause (iii), by striking “or”  
25                         and inserting “increase reunification rates

1 for children who have been placed in out-  
2 of-home care, or decrease”; and

3 (iv) by redesignating clause (iii) as  
4 clause (v) and inserting after clause (ii)  
5 the following:

6 “(iii) improve the substance abuse  
7 treatment outcomes for parents including  
8 retention in treatment and successful com-  
9 pletion of treatment;

10 “(iv) facilitate the implementation, de-  
11 livery, and effectiveness of prevention serv-  
12 ices and programs under section 471(e);  
13 and”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking  
15 “where appropriate,”; and

16 (C) by striking subparagraphs (E) and (F)  
17 and inserting the following:

18 “(E) A description of a plan for sustaining  
19 the services provided by or activities funded  
20 under the grant after the conclusion of the  
21 grant period, including through the use of pre-  
22 vention services and programs under section  
23 471(e) and other funds provided to the State  
24 for child welfare and substance abuse preven-  
25 tion and treatment services.

1           “(F) Additional information needed by the  
2           Secretary to determine that the proposed activi-  
3           ties and implementation will be consistent with  
4           research or evaluations showing which practices  
5           and approaches are most effective.”;

6           (5) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking “abuse  
7           treatment” and inserting “use disorder treatment in-  
8           cluding medication assisted treatment and in-home  
9           substance abuse disorder treatment and recovery”;

10          (6) in paragraph (7)—

11                 (A) by striking “and” at the end of sub-  
12                 paragraph (C); and

13                 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as  
14                 subparagraph (E) and inserting after subpara-  
15                 graph (C) the following:

16                         “(D) demonstrate a track record of suc-  
17                         cessful collaboration among child welfare, sub-  
18                         stance abuse disorder treatment and mental  
19                         health agencies; and”;

20          (7) in paragraph (8)—

21                 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

22                         (i) by striking “establish indicators  
23                         that will be” and inserting “review indica-  
24                         tors that are”; and



1           (ii) by striking “in using funds made  
2           available under such grants to achieve the  
3           purpose of this subsection” and inserting  
4           “and establish a set of core indicators re-  
5           lated to child safety, parental recovery,  
6           parenting capacity, and family well-being.  
7           In developing the core indicators, to the  
8           extent possible, indicators shall be made  
9           consistent with the outcome measures de-  
10          scribed in section 471(e)(6)”; and

11          (B) in subparagraph (B)—

12                 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),  
13                 by inserting “base the performance meas-  
14                 ures on lessons learned from prior rounds  
15                 of regional partnership grants under this  
16                 subsection, and” before “consult”; and

17                 (ii) by striking clauses (iii) and (iv)  
18                 and inserting the following:

19                         “(iii) Other stakeholders or constitu-  
20                         encies as determined by the Secretary.”;

21                         and

22                 (8) in paragraph (9)(A), by striking clause (i)  
23                 and inserting the following:

24                         “(i) SEMIANNUAL REPORTS.—Not  
25                         later than September 30 of each fiscal year

1 in which a recipient of a grant under this  
2 subsection is paid funds under the grant,  
3 and every 6 months thereafter, the grant  
4 recipient shall submit to the Secretary a  
5 report on the services provided and activi-  
6 ties carried out during the reporting pe-  
7 riod, progress made in achieving the goals  
8 of the program, the number of children,  
9 adults, and families receiving services, and  
10 such additional information as the Sec-  
11 retary determines is necessary. The report  
12 due not later than September 30 of the  
13 last such fiscal year shall include, at a  
14 minimum, data on each of the performance  
15 indicators included in the evaluation of the  
16 regional partnership.”.

17 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the  
19 amendments made by this Act shall take effect on October  
20 1, 2017.

21 (b) TRANSITION RULE.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a State plan  
23 under part B of title IV of the Social Security Act  
24 which the Secretary of Health and Human Services  
25 determines requires State legislation (other than leg-

1 islation appropriating funds) in order for the plan to  
2 meet the additional requirements imposed by the  
3 amendments made by this Act, the State plan shall  
4 not be regarded as failing to comply with the re-  
5 quirements of such part solely on the basis of the  
6 failure of the plan to meet such additional require-  
7 ments before the first day of the first calendar quar-  
8 ter beginning after the close of the first regular ses-  
9 sion of the State legislature that begins after the  
10 date of enactment of this Act. For purposes of the  
11 previous sentence, in the case of a State that has a  
12 2-year legislative session, each year of the session  
13 shall be deemed to be a separate regular session of  
14 the State legislature.

15 (2) APPLICATION TO PROGRAMS OPERATED BY  
16 INDIAN TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—In the case of an  
17 Indian tribe, tribal organization, or tribal consortium  
18 which the Secretary of Health and Human Services  
19 determines requires time to take action necessary to  
20 comply with the additional requirements imposed by  
21 the amendments made by this Act (whether the  
22 tribe, organization, or tribal consortium has a plan  
23 under section 479B of the Social Security Act or a  
24 cooperative agreement or contract entered into with  
25 a State), the Secretary shall provide the tribe, orga-

1 nization, or tribal consortium with such additional  
2 time as the Secretary determines is necessary for the  
3 tribe, organization, or tribal consortium to take the  
4 action to comply with the additional requirements  
5 before being regarded as failing to comply with the  
6 requirements.

Passed the House of Representatives June 20, 2017.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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