

DISCUSSION DRAFT

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To establish a permanent national public health program to prevent child sexual abuse and make the United States the safest place in the world to be a child, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

[DATE]

Mr./Ms. _____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on

A BILL

To establish a permanent national public health program to prevent child sexual abuse and make the United States the safest place in the world to be a child, and for other purposes.

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

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

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the ‘Bloom Safe: Make America the Safest Place
5 To Be a Kid Act’.

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

7 Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

8 Sec. 2. National public health declaration and purposes.

9 Sec. 3. Public health orientation; rule of construction.

10 Sec. 4. Definitions.

11 **TITLE I—NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP**

12 Sec. 101. National Council on Child Sexual Abuse Prevention.

13 Sec. 102. National strategy and duties.

14 Sec. 103. National Advisory Board.

15 Sec. 104. Public participation and survivor safeguards.

16 **TITLE II—RESEARCH, SURVEILLANCE, DATA, AND REPORTING**

17 Sec. 201. National Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Research and Data Center.

18 Sec. 202. Research agenda and research awards.

19 Sec. 203. Interagency data coordination.

20 Sec. 204. Annual national report to Congress and the public.

21 Sec. 205. Privacy, ethics, and data security.

22 Sec. 206. Evidence clearinghouse.

23 **TITLE III—PREVENTION EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND SERVICES**

24 Sec. 301. Prevention education for children and students.

25 Sec. 302. National training standards and Bloom Safe certification.

26 Sec. 303. Organizational prevention standards.

27 Sec. 304. National awareness campaign and confidential prevention helpline.

28 Sec. 305. Trauma-informed survivor and family supports.

29 Sec. 306. Digital safety and technology-facilitated abuse prevention.

1 Sec. 307. Equitable access.

2 TITLE IV—GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

3 Sec. 401. Grant-making and cooperative agreement authority.

4 Sec. 402. Eligible entities.

5 Sec. 403. Authorized award categories.

6 Sec. 404. Applications.

7 Sec. 405. Merit review and award priorities.

8 Sec. 406. Award terms, monitoring, and evaluation.

9 Sec. 407. Evidence and innovation portfolio.

10 Sec. 408. Faith-based and community-based organizations.

11 Sec. 409. Private-sector and technology partnerships.

12 Sec. 410. Technical assistance and capacity building.

13 Sec. 411. Coordination, nonduplication, and supplementation.

14 Sec. 412. Audits, remedies, and transparency.

15 TITLE V—FUNDING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

16 Sec. 501. Permanent annual appropriation.

17 Sec. 502. Annual operating plan and public spending data.

18 Sec. 503. Independent evaluation and Comptroller General review.

19 Sec. 504. Regulations and implementation deadlines.

20 Sec. 505. Continuity; no sunset.

21 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH DECLARATION AND PURPOSES.**

22 (a) **DECLARATION.**—Congress declares child sexual abuse to be a preventable national public
23 health crisis of epidemic scope that requires sustained surveillance, research, primary
24 prevention, education, training, certification, community implementation, and trauma-
25 informed care.

26 (b) **NATIONAL POLICY.**—It is the policy of the United States that—

- 27 (1) the prevention of child sexual abuse is an adult, institutional, community, and
28 governmental responsibility and may not be placed on children or survivors;
- 29 (2) Federal action under this Act shall be led by public health and education agencies and
30 grounded in rigorous science, human dignity, privacy, and the best interests of children;
- 31 (3) prevention shall address individual, relational, organizational, community, societal, and
32 technology-related risk and protective factors, including conditions that permit grooming,
33 exploitation, nondisclosure, or recurrence; and
- 34 (4) all children, families, and communities shall have meaningful access to evidence-based or
35 evidence-informed prevention and trauma-informed support.

36 (c) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this Act are—

- 37 (1) to establish permanent national leadership and stable funding for child sexual abuse
38 prevention as a public health function;
- 39 (2) to produce, beginning in the first year after enactment and every year thereafter, a public
40 national account of incidence, prevalence, root causes, risk and protective factors, and
41 effective methods of prevention;
- 42 (3) to expand rigorous, survivor-informed research and interoperable, privacy-protective
43 public health surveillance;
- 44 (4) to educate children in age-appropriate ways and train and certify adults who work with or
45 care for children;

- (5) to support community, school, university, nonprofit, faith-based, governmental, health care, and private-sector partnerships;
- (6) to scale effective primary prevention while supporting responsible innovation and independent evaluation; and
- (7) to ensure access to voluntary, trauma-informed, healing-centered services for children, adult survivors, and nonoffending family members.

SEC. 3. PUBLIC HEALTH ORIENTATION; RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

- (a) **PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP.**—The Secretary, acting principally through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and in coordination with the Secretary of Education, shall lead implementation of this Act. The prevention of child sexual abuse, rather than criminal investigation or punishment, is the primary purpose and organizing principle of every program funded under this Act.
- (b) **JUSTICE AND SECURITY AGENCIES.**—The Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, the United States Secret Service, and other law enforcement or national security components may participate under this Act only to—
 - (1) provide de-identified or aggregate data for public health surveillance, research, evaluation, and the annual report required by section 204;
 - (2) assist with privacy-protective data standards and lawful interagency data sharing for those purposes;
 - (3) contribute subject-matter expertise to prevention education, professional training, and certification; and
 - (4) train and certify law enforcement officers, first responders, forensic interviewers, and mandated reporters in prevention, recognition, trauma-informed response, lawful reporting, and referral to services.
- (c) **NO EXPANSION OF ENFORCEMENT.**—Nothing in this Act—
 - (1) creates or expands criminal investigative, surveillance, search, seizure, arrest, detention, prosecutorial, intelligence, or regulatory authority;
 - (2) authorizes funds for additional sworn personnel, agents, prosecutors, task-force operations, tactical equipment, weapons, detention capacity, criminal intelligence systems, or enforcement technology;
 - (3) alters the elements, penalties, defenses, or evidentiary rules of any criminal or civil offense; or
 - (4) limits any authority or duty that exists independently of this Act, including a duty to report suspected child abuse under applicable law.
- (d) **MEASURES OF SUCCESS.**—An arrest, prosecution, conviction, sentence, or incarceration rate may be reported as contextual administrative data, but may not be the primary performance measure for any program under this Act.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

- (1) **ADVISORY BOARD.**—The term ‘Advisory Board’ means the National Advisory Board established under section 103.

- 1 (2) **CHILD**.—The term ‘child’ means an individual who has not attained 18 years of age.
- 2 (3) **CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL**.—The term ‘child sexual abuse material’ has
- 3 the meaning given the term ‘child pornography’ in section 2256 of title 18, United States
- 4 Code, and shall be described under this Act using victim-centered terminology.
- 5 (4) **CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE**.—
- 6 (A) **IN GENERAL**.—The terms ‘child sexual abuse’ and ‘CSA’ mean any actual,
- 7 attempted, threatened, facilitated, or technology-mediated sexual act, sexual contact,
- 8 sexual exploitation, or other sexual conduct involving a child that the child does not
- 9 fully comprehend, to which the child does not or cannot give informed consent, or
- 10 for which the child is not developmentally prepared, including—
- 11 (i) a sexual act or sexual contact, as those terms are defined in section 2246 of title
- 12 18, United States Code, committed against, with, or in the presence of a child;
- 13 (ii) the production, creation, adaptation, possession, receipt, distribution,
- 14 transmission, live streaming, solicitation, or compelled self-generation of child
- 15 sexual abuse material;
- 16 (iii) grooming, enticement, sexual solicitation, sexual extortion, trafficking for a
- 17 commercial sex act, voyeurism, exposure of a child to sexual activity or sexually
- 18 explicit material, or use of a child in prostitution or other commercial sexual
- 19 exploitation;
- 20 (iv) using, employing, persuading, inducing, enticing, coercing, manipulating,
- 21 deceiving, forcing, threatening, or trafficking a child for the sexual arousal,
- 22 gratification, benefit, or advantage of any person; and
- 23 (v) conduct prohibited as sexual abuse or sexual exploitation of a child under
- 24 applicable Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial law.
- 25 (B) **CONTACT AND NONCONTACT CONDUCT**.—The terms include contact and
- 26 noncontact conduct and conduct occurring in person, through communications
- 27 technology, in a digital environment, or through a combination of those means.
- 28 (C) **POWER AND COERCION**.—The terms include conduct enabled by force, threat,
- 29 intimidation, deception, grooming, exploitation, commercial exchange, a substantial
- 30 difference in age or development, or abuse of trust, authority, dependency, disability,
- 31 vulnerability, or power.
- 32 (D) **CONDUCT BETWEEN CHILDREN**.—When each person directly involved is a
- 33 child, the terms include conduct described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) that
- 34 involves coercion, exploitation, a substantial difference in age, size, development,
- 35 capacity, status, or power, or an inability to give informed consent. Solely for
- 36 purposes of this Act, the terms do not include age-appropriate conduct between
- 37 children of similar age and developmental capacity in the absence of such a
- 38 circumstance.
- 39 (E) **APPARENT ACQUIESCENCE**.—A child’s apparent acquiescence, failure to
- 40 resist, delayed disclosure, prior sexual experience, or creation or transmission of an
- 41 image does not, by itself, exclude conduct from the definition.
- 42 (F) **PUBLIC HEALTH CLASSIFICATION**.—For surveillance, research, prevention,
- 43 or services under this Act, classification as child sexual abuse does not require an

- 1 arrest, charge, adjudication, conviction, or administrative substantiation and does not
2 determine criminal or civil liability.
- 3 (5) **COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.**—The term ‘community-based
4 organization’ means a public or private nonprofit organization, including a faith-based
5 organization, that is representative of a community or a significant segment of a
6 community and has demonstrated experience serving children, families, survivors, or
7 adults who care for or work with children.
- 8 (6) **COUNCIL.**—The term ‘Council’ means the National Council on Child Sexual Abuse
9 Prevention established under section 101.
- 10 (7) **EVIDENCE-BASED.**—The term ‘evidence-based’ means supported by a body of
11 rigorous research that permits a reasonable conclusion that a program, policy, practice, or
12 intervention causes or contributes to a beneficial outcome relevant to preventing child
13 sexual abuse or reducing associated harm.
- 14 (8) **EVIDENCE-INFORMED.**—The term ‘evidence-informed’ means grounded in the best
15 available research, public health theory, professional expertise, community knowledge,
16 and the lived experience of survivors, with a defined theory of change and a plan for
17 evaluation.
- 18 (9) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term ‘institution of higher
19 education’ has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of
20 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).
- 21 (10) **PREVENTION.**—The term ‘prevention’ includes—
22 (A) primary prevention that prevents child sexual abuse before it first occurs;
23 (B) early identification and voluntary intervention that reduces imminent risk or
24 interrupts grooming, exploitation, or abuse; and
25 (C) measures that prevent recurrence and reduce immediate and long-term health harms,
26 without treating survivors as responsible for preventing abuse.
- 27 (11) **ROOT CAUSES.**—The term ‘root causes’ means the interacting risk and protective
28 factors, pathways to perpetration and victimization, and relational, familial,
29 organizational, community, societal, cultural, economic, and technological conditions
30 that influence whether child sexual abuse occurs, is disclosed, is interrupted, recurs, or is
31 prevented. The term may not be construed to assign blame to a child or survivor.
- 32 (12) **SECRETARY.**—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Health and Human
33 Services.
- 34 (13) **STATE.**—The term ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia,
35 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American
36 Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- 37 (14) **TRAUMA-INFORMED.**—The term ‘trauma-informed’ means grounded in an
38 understanding of trauma and its effects; promoting physical, psychological, and
39 emotional safety, trust, choice, collaboration, and empowerment; and designed to avoid
40 retraumatization.
- 41 (15) **TRIBAL ENTITY.**—The term ‘Tribal entity’ means an Indian Tribe, Tribal
42 organization, or urban Indian organization, as those terms are defined in section 4 of the
43 Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603).

TITLE I—NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP

SEC. 101. NATIONAL COUNCIL ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION.

- (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish within the Department of Health and Human Services a National Council on Child Sexual Abuse Prevention.
- (b) **LEADERSHIP.**—The Secretary shall chair the Council. The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Secretary of Education shall serve as vice chairs. The chair shall retain final administrative responsibility for carrying out this Act.
- (c) **MEMBERS.**—The Council shall include the heads, or appropriately senior designees, of—
- (1) the Administration for Children and Families, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the National Institutes of Health, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration;
 - (2) the Department of Education;
 - (3) the Department of the Interior, including the Bureau of Indian Education;
 - (4) the Department of Defense;
 - (5) the Department of Agriculture;
 - (6) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;
 - (7) the Federal Trade Commission and the Federal Communications Commission;
 - (8) the National Science Foundation;
 - (9) the Office of Management and Budget; and
 - (10) subject to section 3, the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and the United States Secret Service.
- (d) **MEETINGS.**—The Council shall meet not less frequently than quarterly. A meeting may be conducted by secure electronic means.
- (e) **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.**—The Secretary shall provide staff, facilities, data support, and other administrative assistance necessary for the Council to carry out its duties.
- (f) **NO ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.**—A Federal employee serving on the Council shall receive no additional compensation for such service.

SEC. 102. NATIONAL STRATEGY AND DUTIES.

- (a) **NATIONAL STRATEGY.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Council shall publish and begin implementing a National Strategy to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse. The Council shall update the strategy at least once every 3 years.
- (b) **CONTENTS.**—The strategy shall—
- (1) establish measurable 1-year, 3-year, and 10-year public health objectives;
 - (2) identify Federal, State, local, Tribal, territorial, and non-Federal roles;
 - (3) coordinate surveillance, research, prevention education, training, certification, community implementation, public awareness, digital safety, and survivor support;
 - (4) specify how programs will address root causes and strengthen protective factors across the life course;
 - (5) include a plan to reach rural, Tribal, territorial, low-income, disability, immigrant, military, and other underserved communities;
 - (6) identify gaps in evidence, data, workforce capacity, and access to services;

- (7) set standards for implementation fidelity, independent evaluation, public reporting, privacy, and ethical survivor participation; and
- (8) describe how the Council will avoid duplication and align existing Federal programs with the purposes of this Act.

(c) **ADDITIONAL DUTIES.**—The Council shall—

- (1) coordinate agency implementation and resolve interagency barriers;
- (2) issue voluntary model standards and technical assistance;
- (3) recommend research and grant priorities to the Secretary;
- (4) review whether programs are reducing risk, improving protective environments, and reaching underserved populations;
- (5) coordinate with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and with international public health bodies; and
- (6) consult the Advisory Board before approving the national strategy, annual research agenda, or material revisions to national training or certification standards.

SEC. 103. NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish a National Advisory Board on Child Sexual Abuse Prevention to advise the Secretary, the Council, and the Center established under section 201.

(b) **VOTING MEMBERSHIP.**—The Secretary shall appoint not fewer than 31 and not more than 41 voting members, including representatives of—

- (1) adult survivors and survivor-led organizations, with survivors comprising not less than one-fourth of the membership;
- (2) adolescents or young adults with relevant lived or community experience, subject to safeguards under section 104;
- (3) epidemiology, public health surveillance, prevention science, pediatrics, mental health, implementation science, economics, ethics, privacy, and program evaluation;
- (4) State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments;
- (5) public schools, nonprofit private schools, early childhood programs, and institutions of higher education;
- (6) community-based, nonprofit, and faith-based organizations;
- (7) child advocacy centers, health care providers, and disability advocates;
- (8) technology, telecommunications, gaming, media, and online-platform companies, and independent technology-safety researchers;
- (9) parents, caregivers, mandated reporters, first responders, and adults who work with children; and
- (10) rural, Tribal, territorial, and other underserved communities.

(c) **FEDERAL LIAISONS.**—The head of each agency represented on the Council may designate a senior employee to serve as a nonvoting Federal liaison to the Advisory Board. A Federal liaison does not count toward the membership limits in subsection (b) and may provide information and technical assistance but may not vote on a recommendation of the Advisory Board.

- (d) **STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES.**—The Advisory Board shall maintain standing subcommittees on—
- (1) survivor and youth voice;
 - (2) science, surveillance, research, and evaluation;
 - (3) prevention education, adult training and certification, and organizational safety;
 - (4) community-based, nonprofit, and faith-based participation;
 - (5) State, local, Tribal, and territorial implementation;
 - (6) technology and digital safety; and
 - (7) equitable access and survivor and family supports.
- (e) **SUBCOMMITTEE PROCEDURE.**—Each standing subcommittee shall be chaired by a voting member. With the approval of the Advisory Board, a subcommittee may include additional nonvoting experts or community representatives who are not members of the Advisory Board. A subcommittee shall report its findings and proposed recommendations to the full Advisory Board and may not submit advice directly to a Federal officer or agency on behalf of the Advisory Board.
- (f) **TERMS.**—A voting member shall serve for a term of 3 years and may be reappointed once. The Secretary shall initially designate staggered terms.
- (g) **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.**—The Secretary shall require public disclosure and appropriate management of financial, professional, institutional, and personal conflicts of interest.
- (h) **COMPENSATION AND PARTICIPATION SUPPORT.**—
- (1) **NON-FEDERAL MEMBERS.**—A voting member who is not an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall receive compensation for each day, including reasonable preparation time, subcommittee service, approved consultation, and travel time, during which the member performs approved duties of the Advisory Board, at a daily rate determined by the Secretary that does not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule.
 - (2) **FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.**—A member or liaison who is an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall receive no additional compensation for service to the Advisory Board or a subcommittee.
 - (3) **TRAVEL.**—A member shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.
 - (4) **PARTICIPATION SUPPORTS.**—The Secretary shall provide or reimburse reasonable and necessary participation supports, including dependent care, personal assistance services, accessibility accommodations, language services, communications technology, and trauma-informed support, when needed to permit meaningful participation.
 - (5) **VOLUNTARY WAIVER.**—A non-Federal member may voluntarily decline or waive compensation or reimbursement, in whole or in part, including when required by the member’s employer or applicable ethics rules.
 - (6) **VIEWPOINT NEUTRALITY.**—Compensation, reimbursement, or participation support may not be conditioned on the substance of a member’s advice, recommendation, vote, or viewpoint.

- (i) **PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY.**—The Advisory Board shall meet at least twice each year. The Secretary shall publish agendas, minutes, recommendations, membership, subcommittee membership, compensation rates, aggregate compensation and expenses, and conflict disclosures, subject to lawful privacy protections.

SEC. 104. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND SURVIVOR SAFEGUARDS.

- (a) **PUBLIC INPUT.**—The Council and the Advisory Board shall provide regular opportunities for public comment, listening sessions, and community consultation, including accessible remote participation.
- (b) **TRAUMA-INFORMED PARTICIPATION.**—A Federal agency or recipient that requests a survivor to advise, speak, review, or otherwise contribute to an activity under this Act shall—
- (1) obtain voluntary and informed agreement;
 - (2) avoid requiring disclosure of personal trauma beyond what is necessary;
 - (3) provide clear information regarding privacy, public records, compensation, and potential use of the contribution;
 - (4) offer reasonable compensation comparable to compensation for other subject-matter experts, unless the individual voluntarily declines compensation or applicable ethics law prohibits payment;
 - (5) provide accessibility, emotional-support, and opt-out options; and
 - (6) prohibit retaliation, coercion, and the use of a survivor’s identity or story outside the agreed purpose.
- (c) **CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS.**—A child may participate only under a protocol reviewed by qualified ethics and child-development personnel, with legally sufficient permission and assent as applicable, strict minimization of risk, and a prohibition on eliciting a personal abuse disclosure in a public setting.

TITLE II—RESEARCH, SURVEILLANCE, DATA, AND REPORTING

SEC. 201. NATIONAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION RESEARCH AND DATA CENTER.

- (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall establish a permanent National Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Research and Data Center.
- (b) **FUNCTIONS.**—The Center shall—
- (1) develop and maintain national public health surveillance of the incidence and prevalence of child sexual abuse, including contact, noncontact, institutional, peer, commercial, and technology-facilitated forms;
 - (2) develop uniform definitions, core measures, survey modules, data standards, and recommended data elements;
 - (3) study root causes, risk and protective factors, pathways to perpetration and victimization, disclosure and nondisclosure, recurrence, and barriers to prevention and services;
 - (4) identify, develop, test, replicate, and scale effective methods of primary prevention, early intervention, organizational prevention, and prevention of recurrence;

- (5) support longitudinal, population-based, community-based participatory, implementation, economic, and evaluation research;
- (6) evaluate programs and awards under this Act, including intended and unintended effects;
- (7) estimate the health, educational, social, and economic consequences of child sexual abuse and the benefits and costs of prevention;
- (8) provide secure methods for privacy-preserving data linkage and analysis;
- (9) train and support a multidisciplinary prevention research workforce; and
- (10) prepare the annual report required by section 204.

(c) **SCIENTIFIC INDEPENDENCE.**—The Director shall adopt procedures to protect the scientific integrity, timely publication, and reproducibility of Center research and shall not suppress, materially alter, or delay a finding for political or reputational reasons.

(d) **COORDINATION.**—The Center shall coordinate with the National Center for Health Statistics, the Administration for Children and Families, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Education, the National Science Foundation, and the statistical and research components of other Council agencies.

SEC. 202. RESEARCH AGENDA AND RESEARCH AWARDS.

(a) **ANNUAL AGENDA.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Center shall publish a prioritized research agenda after consultation with the Advisory Board and public comment.

(b) **REQUIRED TOPICS.**—The agenda shall address—

- (1) national and subnational incidence and prevalence, including undercount and uncertainty;
- (2) root causes and modifiable risk and protective factors;
- (3) perpetration prevention, voluntary help-seeking, and safe early intervention before a child is harmed;
- (4) family, peer, school, faith-community, youth-serving, residential, athletic, health-care, foster-care, military, and online environments;
- (5) children with disabilities and other populations for whom risk, disclosure, or access may differ;
- (6) technology-facilitated grooming, sexual extortion, live streaming, compelled self-generated material, and emerging technologies;
- (7) methods that prevent first occurrence, interrupt ongoing abuse, prevent recurrence, and reduce harm without placing responsibility on children;
- (8) implementation, replication, scaling, cost, workforce, and sustainability; and
- (9) ethical, privacy-protective, and survivor-informed research methods.

(c) **RESEARCH AWARDS.**—The Secretary may award grants and cooperative agreements to eligible entities under title IV to carry out the agenda. Peer review shall emphasize scientific merit, public health importance, feasibility, ethical protections, and potential for meaningful prevention impact.

(d) **OPEN SCIENCE.**—To the extent consistent with privacy, intellectual-property law, research ethics, and the protection of children and survivors, recipients shall make publications, measures, analytic code, and de-identified data available for verification and reuse.

1 **SEC. 203. INTERAGENCY DATA COORDINATION.**

- 2 (a) **DATA CONTRIBUTION.**—Each Council agency shall, to the maximum extent permitted
 3 by law, provide the Center timely access to relevant aggregate or de-identified administrative,
 4 survey, program, and research data necessary to carry out this title.
- 5 (b) **INCLUDED SOURCES.**—Data may include child welfare, health, education, social
 6 services, hotline, mortality, victim-service, court, corrections, investigation, and technology-
 7 related administrative data, if obtained and used consistently with section 205.
- 8 (c) **JUSTICE AND SECURITY DATA.**—The Attorney General, the Director of the Federal
 9 Bureau of Investigation, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall designate statistical or
 10 research officials to provide de-identified or aggregate data on reports, referrals,
 11 investigations, case dispositions, victim characteristics, technology-facilitated abuse, and
 12 other relevant matters. Such data may be used only for surveillance, research, evaluation,
 13 education, and public reporting under this Act.
- 14 (d) **AGREEMENTS.**—The Center shall execute data-use agreements that specify purpose, legal
 15 authority, minimization, access controls, retention, disclosure review, breach response,
 16 destruction, and prohibition on reidentification.
- 17 (e) **DATA QUALITY.**—The Center shall document definitions, completeness, missingness, bias,
 18 uncertainty, and comparability and may not present administrative reports or justice-system
 19 contacts as equivalent to population incidence or prevalence.
- 20 (f) **NO OPERATIONAL DATABASE.**—Nothing in this section authorizes the Center to create
 21 or maintain an operational case-management, intelligence, suspect, offender, or watch-list
 22 database.

23 **SEC. 204. ANNUAL NATIONAL REPORT TO CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC.**

- 24 (a) **FIRST-YEAR REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
 25 the Secretary, acting through the Center and in consultation with the Council, shall submit to
 26 the appropriate committees of Congress and publish on a public website the first Annual
 27 National Child Sexual Abuse Public Health Report.
- 28 (b) **REPORTS EVERY YEAR.**—Not later than 1 year after submission of the first report, and
 29 once during each 1-year period thereafter, the Secretary shall submit and publish an updated
 30 report. The duty to issue a report applies in every year, including the first year after
 31 enactment, regardless of whether all contemplated data systems or programs are operational.
- 32 (c) **REQUIRED CONTENTS.**—Each report shall include—
 33 (1) the best available national and subnational estimates of incidence and prevalence, with
 34 confidence intervals or other measures of uncertainty and a clear explanation of
 35 underreporting and methodological limitations;
 36 (2) estimates disaggregated, when statistically reliable and privacy-protective, by age, sex,
 37 disability, race, ethnicity, geography, living arrangement, relationship to the person
 38 causing harm, setting, and whether technology facilitated the abuse;
 39 (3) an analysis of root causes, risk factors, protective factors, perpetration pathways,
 40 victimization pathways, disclosure, nondisclosure, institutional conditions, and emerging
 41 threats;

- (4) a systematic review of known and promising methods of prevention, including the quality and limitations of evidence, populations and settings studied, implementation requirements, cost, and potential adverse effects;
- (5) results of federally funded prevention research and program evaluation, including null or unfavorable findings;
- (6) coverage and outcome measures for child education, adult training and certification, organizational standards, public awareness, helpline, digital safety, and survivor-support activities;
- (7) a description of grants and cooperative agreements, recipients, geographic distribution, populations served, expenditures, performance, and corrective actions;
- (8) a data-completeness scorecard for each participating agency and a plan with deadlines to correct material gaps;
- (9) an assessment of equitable access and disparities in reach, burden, and outcomes;
- (10) recommendations for administrative, research, funding, and legislative action; and
- (11) the amount and purpose of any funds provided to the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, the United States Secret Service, or any other law enforcement component, with a certification of compliance with sections 3 and 501(f).

(d) **FIRST-YEAR LIMITATIONS.**—If reliable national incidence, prevalence, root-cause, or prevention-effectiveness data are not available for the first report, the Secretary shall publish the best available provisional estimates, describe each limitation, identify the data necessary to cure the limitation, and provide a funded schedule for obtaining that data. Lack of complete data may not delay the report.

(e) **INDEPENDENT REVIEW.**—Before publication, the Center shall obtain review from at least 3 independent experts with relevant methodological expertise and shall publish the reviewers' names, conflict disclosures, and a summary of material comments and responses, except as necessary to protect privacy.

(f) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.**—On the same day the report is submitted to Congress, the Secretary shall make it available without charge in accessible digital and print-ready formats and shall publish supporting aggregate tables and machine-readable data to the extent consistent with section 205.

(g) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—In this section, the term 'appropriate committees of Congress' means the committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate with jurisdiction over public health, education, appropriations, the judiciary, and homeland security.

SEC. 205. PRIVACY, ETHICS, AND DATA SECURITY.

(a) **MINIMUM NECESSARY.**—A Federal agency and recipient shall collect, use, retain, and disclose only the minimum data necessary to carry out an authorized public health purpose under this Act.

(b) **PROHIBITED USES.**—Personally identifiable or readily reidentifiable information obtained or created under this Act may not be used for immigration enforcement, criminal investigation

or prosecution, civil commitment, surveillance of lawful activity, commercial advertising, insurance underwriting, employment screening, or any purpose unrelated to this Act.

(c) **RESEARCH PROTECTIONS.**—Research involving human participants shall comply with applicable Federal protections for human subjects, privacy, education records, and health information and shall include additional safeguards appropriate to children, survivors, and sensitive data.

(d) **REIDENTIFICATION.**—A person may not attempt to reidentify a person from data released under this Act or disclose a method reasonably likely to permit reidentification, except under an approved security or statistical-validation protocol that prohibits further disclosure.

(e) **SECURITY STANDARDS.**—The Secretary shall establish risk-based security, access-control, encryption, logging, incident-response, retention, and destruction requirements and shall require prompt notice and remediation of a breach.

(f) **STATISTICAL DISCLOSURE LIMITATION.**—Before public release, data shall undergo review for small-cell, linkage, geographic, mosaic, and other reidentification risks. Suppression or aggregation shall be used when necessary while preserving the report’s public-health utility.

SEC. 206. EVIDENCE CLEARINGHOUSE.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Center shall maintain a free, publicly accessible clearinghouse of child sexual abuse prevention research, measures, curricula, training resources, organizational standards, implementation tools, and evaluation findings.

(b) **EVIDENCE RATINGS.**—The Center shall publish transparent criteria for rating the strength, relevance, and limitations of evidence and shall distinguish evidence-based, evidence-informed, promising, untested, ineffective, and harmful approaches.

(c) **ACCESSIBILITY.**—Resources shall be written or translated, as practicable, for different ages, languages, literacy levels, disabilities, cultures, community settings, and professional roles.

TITLE III—PREVENTION EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND SERVICES

SEC. 301. PREVENTION EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS.

(a) **GRANTS.**—The Secretary of Education, in coordination with the Secretary, may award grants under title IV to develop, evaluate, implement, and sustain age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate child sexual abuse prevention education in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education settings.

(b) **CORE CONTENT.**—Supported education shall, as appropriate to age and development—

(1) teach accurate names for body parts, body autonomy, privacy, healthy boundaries, consent, and the difference between safe and unsafe or inappropriate conduct;

(2) teach that a child is never responsible for abuse and that abuse may be committed by a known, trusted, or similarly aged person;

(3) help children recognize grooming, manipulation, coercion, sexual extortion, unsafe digital contact, and requests for sexual images or secrecy;

(4) identify multiple trusted adults and safe, accessible ways to seek help or disclose;

(5) prepare schools and adults to receive disclosures without blame, disbelief, suggestive questioning, or retaliation; and

(6) include repeated instruction and opportunities to practice help-seeking skills without requiring a child to disclose personal experience.

(c) **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT.**—A recipient shall provide parents and caregivers advance, understandable information about program content and voluntary resources for reinforcing prevention at home, consistent with applicable law and without denying a child access to required reporting or protective services.

(d) **EDUCATOR PREPARATION.**—A recipient shall train personnel before delivery, maintain a written disclosure-response protocol, and establish referral pathways to trauma-informed services.

(e) **NO FEDERAL CONTROL OF EDUCATION.**—Nothing in this Act authorizes an officer or employee of the Federal Government to mandate, direct, or control a State, local educational agency, school, or institution’s specific curriculum, program of instruction, standards, assessments, or allocation of State or local educational resources. Participation in a grant program under this section is voluntary.

SEC. 302. NATIONAL TRAINING STANDARDS AND BLOOM SAFE CERTIFICATION.

(a) **STANDARDS.**—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Education and after consultation with the Advisory Board, shall establish national core competencies for adults who work with or care for children.

(b) **COVERED ROLES.**—Competencies and role-specific training shall be developed for—

(1) parents, guardians, relatives, foster and adoptive caregivers, and other caregivers;

(2) early childhood personnel, educators, school employees, counselors, administrators, and volunteers;

(3) health, behavioral-health, dental, public-health, and social-service professionals;

(4) clergy, faith leaders, religious educators, and faith-based staff and volunteers;

(5) coaches, athletic personnel, camp staff, mentors, tutors, arts instructors, and other youth-serving personnel;

(6) child welfare personnel, guardians ad litem, court personnel, and mandated reporters;

(7) law enforcement officers, emergency medical personnel, firefighters, dispatchers, prosecutors, and other first responders, solely as provided in sections 3 and 501(f); and

(8) technology-industry trust and safety, product-design, moderation, research, and child-safety personnel.

(c) **CORE COMPETENCIES.**—Training shall address—

(1) the definition, forms, prevalence, health effects, warning signs, risk factors, protective factors, and preventability of child sexual abuse;

(2) grooming, boundary violations, organizational risk, technology-facilitated abuse, and ways adults can interrupt risk before abuse occurs;

(3) trauma-informed response to a concern or disclosure, immediate safety, non-leading listening, documentation, referral, and applicable reporting duties;

- (4) codes of conduct, supervision, screening, safe communication, transportation, overnight, bathroom, changing-area, and one-on-one interaction policies;
- (5) cultural humility, disability access, language access, and the differing barriers children may face in disclosure;
- (6) confidentiality, privacy, retaliation prevention, due process, and avoidance of victim blaming; and
- (7) role-specific practice, assessment, and periodic refresher education.

(d) **BLOOM SAFE CERTIFICATION.**—The Secretary shall establish a voluntary, portable Bloom Safe certification for individuals and organizations that meet the applicable standards. Certification shall require demonstrated competency, expire not later than 3 years after issuance, and require continuing education and reassessment for renewal.

(e) **QUALITY ASSURANCE.**—The Secretary shall approve training providers through a transparent process, audit a representative sample, provide a complaint and appeal process, and suspend or revoke approval for material noncompliance.

(f) **RELATIONSHIP TO LICENSING.**—The Secretary may work with State, Tribal, territorial, professional, credentialing, and accreditation bodies to permit training to satisfy continuing-education or credential requirements, but this Act does not create a Federal occupational license.

(g) **LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING LIMITATION.**—Training for a law enforcement officer, prosecutor, or first responder may include prevention, recognition, mandated reporting, evidence-preserving first response, trauma-informed interaction, referral, and multidisciplinary coordination. Funds may not support an investigation, enforcement operation, prosecution, or expansion of enforcement capacity.

SEC. 303. ORGANIZATIONAL PREVENTION STANDARDS.

(a) **MODEL STANDARDS.**—The Secretary shall publish voluntary, evidence-informed model standards for organizations that serve children.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The standards shall address—

- (1) leadership responsibility, governance oversight, written codes of conduct, and a culture in which concerns may be raised safely;
- (2) risk assessment for physical spaces, transportation, overnight activities, changing and bathing, digital communications, image sharing, and one-on-one contact;
- (3) screening, reference checks, background checks where lawful and appropriate, and a clear statement that a background check is not a substitute for other prevention controls;
- (4) appropriate staffing, supervision, visibility, access control, and prohibition of isolated or secret adult-child interactions except when necessary and safeguarded;
- (5) safe reporting, documentation, anti-retaliation, response, referral, and communication with families;
- (6) training and certification for employees, contractors, volunteers, and leaders;
- (7) periodic independent review, incident learning, corrective action, and continuous improvement; and
- (8) privacy, due process, and safeguards against discrimination or stigmatization.

- 1 (c) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary may fund readiness assessments, policy
 2 development, training, implementation coaching, and independent reviews, with priority for
 3 small and under-resourced organizations.

4 **SEC. 304. NATIONAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AND CONFIDENTIAL**
 5 **PREVENTION HELPLINE.**

- 6 (a) **CAMPAIGN.**—The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control
 7 and Prevention, shall conduct sustained national and community-tailored campaigns that
 8 explain the public health burden and preventability of child sexual abuse, the responsibility of
 9 adults and institutions, warning signs and grooming, safe response to disclosures, reporting
 10 obligations, and available prevention and healing resources.
- 11 (b) **MESSAGING SAFEGUARDS.**—Campaigns shall be developmentally appropriate, non-
 12 graphic, trauma-informed, culturally and linguistically responsive, accessible to people with
 13 disabilities, evaluated for intended and unintended effects, and designed to avoid
 14 sensationalism, stigma, victim blaming, or reliance on ‘stranger danger’ alone.
- 15 (c) **PREVENTION HELPLINE.**—The Secretary shall establish or support a nationwide,
 16 confidential, 24-hour telephone, text, and online service that provides evidence-informed
 17 information, safety planning, crisis support, and referrals for—
 18 (1) a child, survivor, parent, caregiver, professional, or community member concerned about
 19 abuse, grooming, or risk;
 20 (2) a person concerned about the person’s own sexual thoughts, interests, or behavior
 21 involving children and voluntarily seeking help before a child is harmed or abuse recurs;
 22 and
 23 (3) a person concerned about another person’s behavior who seeks prevention guidance or
 24 referral.
- 25 (d) **CONFIDENTIALITY AND SAFETY.**—The Secretary shall publish clear confidentiality
 26 and mandatory-reporting rules, minimize collection of identifying information, protect records
 27 from unauthorized use, and establish protocols for imminent threats to a child consistent with
 28 applicable law. The service may not operate as a routine law-enforcement intake or
 29 intelligence system.
- 30 (e) **EVALUATION.**—The Secretary shall independently evaluate reach, safety, referral
 31 completion, user outcomes, false or misleading messaging, and effects on help-seeking and
 32 prevention.

33 **SEC. 305. TRAUMA-INFORMED SURVIVOR AND FAMILY SUPPORTS.**

- 34 (a) **AWARDS.**—The Secretary may award grants and cooperative agreements under title IV to
 35 expand timely, voluntary, evidence-based or evidence-informed, trauma-informed, and
 36 culturally responsive support for child and adult survivors and nonoffending family members.
- 37 (b) **AUTHORIZED SERVICES.**—Services may include—
 38 (1) child-friendly medical assessment and treatment;
 39 (2) mental and behavioral health care, including evidence-based trauma treatment;
 40 (3) child advocacy center and multidisciplinary care coordination;
 41 (4) victim advocacy, case management, legal information, peer support, and family support;
 42 (5) mobile, telehealth, rural, Tribal, and territorial services;

- (6) accessible and language-appropriate services for children and adults with disabilities; and
- (7) workforce training, supervision, and prevention of secondary traumatic stress.

(c) **NO JUSTICE-SYSTEM CONDITION.**—Eligibility for a service may not be conditioned on a report to law enforcement, cooperation with an investigation or prosecution, a charging decision, or a conviction, except when a condition is independently required by law for a particular benefit.

(d) **PUBLIC HEALTH OUTCOMES.**—Performance measures shall prioritize timely access, safety, health, functioning, well-being, family support, continuity, and user experience and may not use conviction rate as the primary measure of success.

SEC. 306. DIGITAL SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED ABUSE PREVENTION.

(a) **PROGRAM.**—The Secretary, in coordination with the Federal Trade Commission, the Secretary of Education, and the Director of the National Science Foundation, shall support research, education, standards, and demonstrations to prevent technology-facilitated child sexual abuse.

(b) **ACTIVITIES.**—Activities may include—

- (1) research on online grooming, sexual extortion, live streaming, compelled self-generated material, synthetic or altered sexual depictions, and emerging technology;
- (2) age-appropriate digital-safety education for children and practical education for parents, caregivers, educators, and youth-serving professionals;
- (3) privacy-preserving safety-by-design practices, child-friendly reporting and help features, default protections, risk assessments, and independent audits;
- (4) interoperable public-interest research data sets and measurement methods that protect children and survivors;
- (5) voluntary technical standards and procurement guidance; and
- (6) evaluation of benefits, errors, disparate impacts, circumvention, privacy risks, and unintended harms.

(c) **LIMITATIONS.**—Funds under this section may not be used for general content surveillance, expansion of criminal investigative capacity, purchase of law-enforcement technology, or development of a system designed primarily to identify, track, or prosecute individuals.

SEC. 307. EQUITABLE ACCESS.

(a) **UNIVERSAL REACH.**—Programs under this Act shall be designed to reach all children and communities, including rural and remote communities, Tribal and urban Indian communities, territories, military-connected families, low-income communities, immigrant and limited-English-proficient communities, children with disabilities, children in foster care or congregate care, and other populations facing elevated risk or barriers to access.

(b) **ACCESSIBILITY.**—Recipients shall provide reasonable accommodations, effective communication, language access, culturally responsive implementation, and accessible digital and physical services as required by law.

(c) **TRIBAL CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary shall conduct regular, meaningful, and timely Tribal consultation and may enter into compacts, contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements with Tribal entities consistent with applicable law.

- (d) **GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.**—The Secretary shall monitor award and service distribution and take corrective action when a population or region is materially underserved.

TITLE IV—GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

SEC. 401. GRANT-MAKING AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AUTHORITY.

- (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may award formula grants, competitive grants, planning grants, implementation grants, demonstration grants, research grants, and cooperative agreements, and may enter into contracts, as necessary to carry out this Act.
- (b) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The Secretary may administer an award directly or through the head of a Council agency with relevant subject-matter expertise, except that the Secretary remains responsible for compliance with this Act.
- (c) **UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS.**—Part 200 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations, or successor regulations, applies to a grant or cooperative agreement under this Act to the extent not inconsistent with this Act.
- (d) **SUBAWARDS AND CONSORTIA.**—The Secretary may authorize subawards and consortia when they improve reach, expertise, community trust, or coordination. A lead recipient remains accountable for Federal funds and performance.
- (e) **NO NAMED EARMARKS.**—An award may not be made on the basis that an applicant is identified by name in legislative history, a report, an explanatory statement, or nonstatutory material.

SEC. 402. ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.

- (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as otherwise provided, an eligible entity is—
- (1) a State, territory, political subdivision, unit of local government, or Tribal entity;
 - (2) a State educational agency, local educational agency, public school, nonprofit private school, early childhood education program, or regional educational service agency;
 - (3) an institution of higher education or affiliated research center;
 - (4) a nonprofit organization, community-based organization, faith-based organization, church, synagogue, mosque, temple, other house of worship, survivor-led organization, youth-serving organization, or philanthropic organization;
 - (5) a public or nonprofit health care, behavioral health, public health, social-service, or child advocacy center provider;
 - (6) a professional, credentialing, standards-development, or accreditation organization;
 - (7) a library, museum, cultural institution, or public media entity;
 - (8) a partnership or consortium of 2 or more eligible entities; or
 - (9) subject to section 409, a business or other private entity, including a technology, telecommunications, gaming, media, or online-platform company.
- (b) **INDIVIDUALS.**—The Secretary may provide fellowships, scholarships, stipends, or training supports to individuals for prevention research, workforce development, certification, or survivor-informed advisory participation, subject to safeguards established by the Secretary.

SEC. 403. AUTHORIZED AWARD CATEGORIES.

An award under this title may support one or more of the following:

- (1) **SURVEILLANCE AND RESEARCH.**—Activities under title II, including national, State, Tribal, territorial, local, institutional, and community-based research and data infrastructure.
- (2) **COMMUNITY PRIMARY PREVENTION.**—Community-designed strategies that reduce risk, strengthen protective environments, increase safe adult action, and prevent first occurrence.
- (3) **EDUCATION.**—Development, evaluation, adaptation, implementation, and dissemination of prevention education under section 301.
- (4) **TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.**—Training, certification, train-the-trainer systems, continuing education, organizational implementation, and quality assurance under sections 302 and 303.
- (5) **PUBLIC AWARENESS AND HELPLINE.**—National and local campaigns, communications research, helpline services, referral networks, and evaluation under section 304.
- (6) **SURVIVOR AND FAMILY SUPPORTS.**—Services and workforce activities under section 305.
- (7) **DIGITAL SAFETY.**—Research, education, public-interest technology, safety-by-design demonstrations, standards, and evaluation under section 306.
- (8) **CAPACITY AND IMPLEMENTATION.**—Planning, needs assessment, coalition development, technical assistance, data capacity, implementation support, and sustainability.

SEC. 404. APPLICATIONS.

- (a) **SUBMISSION.**—An applicant shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary reasonably requires.
- (b) **REQUIRED ELEMENTS.**—The application shall include—
 - (1) a statement of need supported by the best available quantitative and qualitative data;
 - (2) the population, setting, and geographic area to be served;
 - (3) the proposed activities, theory of change, evidence base, and explanation of how activities address root causes or protective factors;
 - (4) measurable objectives, baseline data when available, implementation milestones, and an evaluation plan proportionate to award size and evidence level;
 - (5) a budget, budget justification, internal-control plan, and description of proposed subawards;
 - (6) a privacy, data-security, records-retention, and data-sharing plan;
 - (7) a plan for accessibility, language access, cultural responsiveness, and equitable reach;
 - (8) a description of meaningful community and survivor input, obtained consistently with section 104;
 - (9) disclosures of organizational, financial, and individual conflicts of interest; and
 - (10) a sustainability and dissemination plan appropriate to the project.
- (c) **PROPORTIONATE BURDEN.**—The Secretary shall use simplified applications and reporting for planning, small, and low-risk awards and may provide preapplication technical assistance.

1 **SEC. 405. MERIT REVIEW AND AWARD PRIORITIES.**

- 2 (a) **MERIT REVIEW.**—The Secretary shall use a written, objective, and transparent merit-
 3 review process for discretionary awards. Reviewers shall have relevant scientific,
 4 implementation, community, financial, and lived-experience expertise and shall be screened
 5 for conflicts of interest.
- 6 (b) **SELECTION CRITERIA.**—The Secretary shall consider—
 7 (1) public health significance and fit with the national strategy and annual research agenda;
 8 (2) scientific or programmatic merit, feasibility, ethical safeguards, and capacity to deliver
 9 results;
 10 (3) strength and relevance of evidence, or, for an innovation award, the plausibility of the
 11 theory of change and rigor of the evaluation;
 12 (4) meaningful participation of affected communities and survivors;
 13 (5) reach to underserved populations and geographic diversity;
 14 (6) quality of partnerships and avoidance of duplication;
 15 (7) privacy, security, accessibility, and potential unintended effects;
 16 (8) cost, sustainability, scalability, and dissemination; and
 17 (9) past performance and financial or programmatic risk, without excluding a capable new or
 18 small organization solely because it lacks prior Federal awards.
- 19 (c) **PRIORITIES.**—The Secretary shall give priority, as appropriate, to applications that—
 20 (1) address an identified gap in incidence, prevalence, root-cause, or prevention-effectiveness
 21 evidence;
 22 (2) prevent first occurrence or perpetration;
 23 (3) serve a rural, Tribal, territorial, low-income, disability, or other materially underserved
 24 population;
 25 (4) build a durable cross-sector partnership that includes a State or local government, school
 26 or university, and community-based or faith-based organization; or
 27 (5) replicate or scale an effective approach with fidelity and independent evaluation.
- 28 (d) **NO MANDATORY MATCH.**—Except as provided in section 409, the Secretary may not
 29 require a non-Federal contribution as a condition of an award. Voluntary cost sharing may not
 30 be used as a merit-review advantage.

31 **SEC. 406. AWARD TERMS, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION.**

- 32 (a) **PERIOD.**—An award may be made for not more than 5 years and may be competitively
 33 renewed. A continuation payment may be conditioned on satisfactory progress, compliance,
 34 continued need, and availability of funds.
- 35 (b) **TERMS.**—Each award shall state performance goals, indicators, targets, baseline data when
 36 available, reporting schedules, allowable uses, privacy and security duties, evaluation
 37 requirements, and remedies for noncompliance.
- 38 (c) **MONITORING.**—The administering agency shall use risk-based financial and programmatic
 39 monitoring, including technical assistance, desk review, audit, site visit, and corrective action
 40 as appropriate.
- 41 (d) **EVALUATION.**—The Secretary shall require evaluation proportionate to the size, risk,
 42 maturity, and evidence level of an award. A large-scale or national demonstration shall

1 include an independent evaluation unless the Secretary publishes a written determination that
2 independence is impracticable and describes an alternative safeguard.

- 3 (e) **PERFORMANCE LEARNING.**—Performance information shall be used for learning,
4 improvement, and responsible stewardship. A recipient shall not be penalized solely because a
5 well-designed study produces a null or unfavorable finding, if the recipient complied with the
6 award and disclosed the result accurately.
- 7 (f) **REPORTING BURDEN.**—The Secretary shall standardize common data elements and avoid
8 duplicative reporting, while preserving the information required for the annual report and
9 public accountability.

10 **SEC. 407. EVIDENCE AND INNOVATION PORTFOLIO.**

- 11 (a) **PORTFOLIO.**—The Secretary shall maintain a balanced portfolio that supports—
12 (1) replication, adaptation, and scale of evidence-based programs and practices;
13 (2) evaluation and improvement of evidence-informed and promising approaches; and
14 (3) responsible innovation addressing important gaps for which established approaches are
15 insufficient.
- 16 (b) **INNOVATION SAFEGUARDS.**—An innovation award shall include a documented theory
17 of change, developmental milestones, enhanced monitoring, ethical and privacy review,
18 predefined stop or modification criteria, and a rigorous evaluation.
- 19 (c) **HARMFUL APPROACHES.**—The Secretary shall not fund an approach that available
20 evidence shows is likely to increase risk, shame or blame children, deter disclosure or help-
21 seeking, discriminate unlawfully, or cause material physical, psychological, privacy, or civil-
22 rights harm.

23 **SEC. 408. FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS.**

- 24 (a) **EQUAL ELIGIBILITY.**—A faith-based or community-based organization, including a
25 church, synagogue, mosque, temple, or other house of worship, is eligible on the same basis
26 as another eligible entity and may neither receive a preference nor be disfavored because of its
27 religious character or affiliation.
- 28 (b) **RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES.**—Direct Federal financial assistance under this Act may not be
29 used for worship, religious instruction, or proselytization. An organization may conduct such
30 activities with non-Federal funds if the activities are separate in time or location from the
31 federally funded activity and participation is voluntary.
- 32 (c) **ORGANIZATIONAL INDEPENDENCE.**—A faith-based organization that receives an
33 award retains independence from Federal, State, and local governments, including control
34 over the definition, development, practice, and expression of its religious beliefs, subject to
35 the requirements applicable to the federally funded activity. The organization is not required
36 to remove religious art, icons, scripture, or other symbols from its facilities.
- 37 (d) **BENEFICIARY PROTECTIONS.**—A provider may not use direct Federal financial
38 assistance to discriminate against a beneficiary in the provision of an activity under this Act
39 on a basis prohibited by Federal law and shall provide any notice or referral required by
40 applicable law.

- 1 (e) **SAFEGUARDING.**—A religious or community setting is subject to the same child-
 2 safeguarding, financial accountability, performance, privacy, and reporting requirements as
 3 any comparable recipient.

4 **SEC. 409. PRIVATE-SECTOR AND TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS.**

- 5 (a) **PERMITTED INSTRUMENTS.**—The Secretary may enter into a cooperative agreement,
 6 grant, other transaction to the extent otherwise authorized, or contract with a private entity
 7 only when the Secretary determines in writing that the arrangement serves a defined public
 8 health prevention purpose and provides public benefit commensurate with Federal cost.

- 9 (b) **REQUIRED SAFEGUARDS.**—An arrangement under subsection (a) shall—

- 10 (1) prohibit profit or fee under a grant or cooperative agreement;
 11 (2) require a non-Federal contribution of not less than 50 percent unless the Secretary
 12 determines that a lower share is necessary to obtain a unique public benefit or include a
 13 small business;
 14 (3) prohibit payment for compliance with an existing legal duty;
 15 (4) prohibit targeted advertising, product marketing to children, sale or commercial reuse of
 16 sensitive data, and use of the project to train a commercial model except as expressly
 17 approved for the public purpose;
 18 (5) require data minimization, independent privacy and security review, and deletion or
 19 return of sensitive data at project completion;
 20 (6) require public disclosure of the Federal amount, non-Federal contribution, purpose,
 21 methods, material findings, conflicts of interest, and known limitations;
 22 (7) provide the United States a royalty-free, nonexclusive license for governmental and
 23 public health purposes in deliverables developed primarily with Federal funds, subject to
 24 lawful protection of preexisting intellectual property;
 25 (8) require independent evaluation for a safety technology deployed at material scale; and
 26 (9) prohibit use of Federal funds to expand law enforcement surveillance, investigation, or
 27 enforcement capacity.

- 28 (c) **NO ENDORSEMENT.**—Participation by a private entity does not constitute Federal
 29 endorsement of the entity or a product or service.

30 **SEC. 410. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING.**

- 31 (a) **ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary shall provide or fund technical assistance for application
 32 development, coalition governance, safeguarding, implementation, evaluation, financial
 33 management, privacy, security, accessibility, language access, and sustainability.

- 34 (b) **PRIORITY.**—Priority shall be given to small community-based and faith-based
 35 organizations, rural and Tribal entities, territories, organizations led by survivors, and
 36 applicants without substantial prior Federal-grant experience.

- 37 (c) **REGIONAL CENTERS.**—The Secretary may support regional technical-assistance centers
 38 hosted by institutions of higher education, public health institutes, Tribal epidemiology
 39 centers, or nonprofit organizations selected competitively.

SEC. 411. COORDINATION, NONDUPLICATION, AND SUPPLEMENTATION.

- (a) **COORDINATION.**—Before making a material award, the Secretary shall review relevant Federal awards and consult appropriate agencies to reduce duplication and identify opportunities for complementary action or shared learning.
- (b) **SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**—Amounts under this Act shall supplement and not supplant Federal, State, local, Tribal, territorial, or private funds otherwise available for substantially the same activity, except that the Secretary may waive this requirement for a fiscal emergency, disaster, materially underserved area, or other circumstance in which a waiver advances continuity of prevention or services.
- (c) **NO DISPLACEMENT OF EXISTING AUTHORITY.**—Nothing in this Act limits another Federal program from supporting child sexual abuse prevention or survivor services under independent authority.

SEC. 412. AUDITS, REMEDIES, AND TRANSPARENCY.

- (a) **AUDITS.**—Awards are subject to applicable single-audit, Inspector General, Comptroller General, and agency oversight requirements.
- (b) **REMEDIES.**—For material noncompliance, the administering agency may impose specific conditions, disallow costs, withhold or recover funds, suspend or terminate an award, require corrective action, or pursue another remedy authorized by law, with notice and an opportunity to respond as required by applicable law.
- (c) **PUBLIC AWARD DATABASE.**—The Secretary shall maintain a searchable public database containing the recipient, amount, instrument, purpose, project period, geographic area, population served, key partners, performance status, evaluation products, and any termination for material noncompliance, subject to privacy and security protections.
- (d) **WHISTLEBLOWER AND RETALIATION PROTECTIONS.**—Each recipient shall notify employees, contractors, volunteers, participants, and beneficiaries of applicable rights to report misuse, unsafe practices, research misconduct, retaliation, or child-safety concerns.

TITLE V—FUNDING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

SEC. 501. PERMANENT ANNUAL APPROPRIATION.

- (a) **IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be appropriated, and there are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the Secretary to carry out this Act—
- (1) \$1,000,000,000 for the fiscal year in which this Act is enacted and \$1,000,000,000 for the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment; and
- (2) \$1,000,000,000 for each fiscal year thereafter.
- (b) **AUTOMATIC CONTINUATION.**—The appropriation under subsection (a)(2) shall continue for each fiscal year without further authorization unless changed by a subsequent Act of Congress. A delay or deficiency in a report required by this Act does not terminate the appropriation, but shall be reported under section 502 and may be addressed through oversight or corrective action.
- (c) **AVAILABILITY.**—An amount made available for a fiscal year shall remain available through the end of the second succeeding fiscal year. The Secretary may obligate funds for a multiyear award consistent with the period specified in section 406.

1 (d) **ALLOCATION.**—Of the amount made available for each fiscal year—

- 2 (1) not less than 18 percent shall be used for research, surveillance, data infrastructure,
- 3 research awards, the evidence clearinghouse, and the annual report under title II;
- 4 (2) not less than 25 percent shall be used for prevention education, adult training and
- 5 certification, and organizational prevention under sections 301 through 303;
- 6 (3) not less than 25 percent shall be used for grants and cooperative agreements to non-
- 7 Federal eligible entities for community prevention, public awareness, helpline, survivor
- 8 support, digital safety, equitable access, and capacity building;
- 9 (4) not less than 10 percent shall be used for trauma-informed survivor and family supports
- 10 under section 305;
- 11 (5) not less than 7 percent shall be used for digital safety and technology-facilitated abuse
- 12 prevention under section 306;
- 13 (6) not less than 60 percent in the aggregate shall be awarded as grants or cooperative
- 14 agreements to non-Federal eligible entities; and
- 15 (7) not more than 3 percent may be used for Federal administration, excluding the research,
- 16 surveillance, reporting, technical-assistance, and evaluation activities expressly
- 17 authorized by this Act.

18 (e) **PRIORITY RESERVATIONS.**—Within amounts awarded to non-Federal eligible entities,

19 the Secretary shall seek to ensure that—

- 20 (1) not less than 10 percent supports rural, Tribal, territorial, or frontier communities; and
- 21 (2) not less than 5 percent supports small community-based, survivor-led, or faith-based
- 22 organizations, directly or through capacity-building subawards, unless the Secretary
- 23 reports that a sufficient number of qualified applications was not received.

24 (f) **LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNDING RESTRICTION.**—No amount made available under

25 this section may be transferred to or obligated by a law enforcement, prosecutorial,

26 intelligence, or national security component, except for reimbursement of the actual,

27 reasonable cost of an activity expressly described in section 3(b). Such reimbursements—

- 28 (1) may not exceed 1 percent of the amount made available for the fiscal year in the
- 29 aggregate;
- 30 (2) shall be identified in advance in the operating plan under section 502;
- 31 (3) may not pay for an activity described in section 3(c)(2); and
- 32 (4) shall be separately accounted for and certified in the annual report under section 204.

33 (g) **TRANSFER AUTHORITY.**—Except as provided in subsection (f), the Secretary may

34 transfer not more than 10 percent of amounts made available for a fiscal year to a Council

35 agency to carry out a duty under this Act. A transferred amount remains subject to this Act

36 and shall be described in the operating plan and annual report.

37 (h) **NO FISCAL-YEAR SUNSET.**—An authorization, program, office, Council, Center, duty,

38 grant authority, or reporting requirement under this Act does not terminate at the end of the

39 first 2 fiscal years or at the end of any later fiscal year.

40 **SEC. 502. ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN AND PUBLIC SPENDING DATA.**

41 (a) **OPERATING PLAN.**—Not later than 60 days after the beginning of each fiscal year, the

42 Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress and publish an operating

plan showing planned obligations by agency, section, award category, program, and administrative activity.

(b) **FIRST-YEAR PLAN.**—For the fiscal year in which this Act is enacted, the first operating plan is due not later than 90 days after the date of enactment.

(c) **MATERIAL CHANGES.**—The Secretary shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress and publish an explanation at least 15 days before a transfer, reprogramming, or other change that moves more than 10 percent from an amount shown for a program in the operating plan, unless an emergency affecting child safety requires earlier action.

(d) **SPENDING DATA.**—The Secretary shall publish quarterly obligations and outlays in a machine-readable format, reconciled to the public award database under section 412 and to government-wide spending data.

(e) **CERTIFICATION.**—The Secretary and the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Health and Human Services shall certify annually whether amounts were used consistently with the allocations and restrictions in section 501 and shall explain and correct any variance.

SEC. 503. INDEPENDENT EVALUATION AND COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.

(a) **INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.**—The Secretary shall reserve sufficient funds within the applicable program amounts for independent process, outcome, impact, and economic evaluation of major activities under this Act. Evaluation plans and preregistered questions shall be published when appropriate and lawful.

(b) **COMPTROLLER GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and at least once every 3 years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report reviewing implementation, financial stewardship, grant distribution, data quality, privacy, scientific integrity, effectiveness, and compliance with the public health and law-enforcement limitations of this Act.

(c) **ACCESS.**—The Secretary and each recipient shall provide the Comptroller General and the applicable Inspector General timely access to records and personnel, subject to protections for privileged, personally identifiable, and research-confidential information.

SEC. 504. REGULATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION DEADLINES.

(a) **INTERIM GUIDANCE.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue interim guidance necessary to begin awards, data coordination, the first annual report, and the first operating plan.

(b) **FINAL REGULATIONS.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment, the Secretary shall promulgate final regulations necessary to carry out this Act after notice and an opportunity for public comment.

(c) **COUNCIL AND ADVISORY BOARD.**—The Council shall first meet not later than 60 days after the date of enactment, and the Advisory Board shall first meet not later than 180 days after that date.

(d) **INITIAL AWARDS.**—The Secretary shall announce the first funding opportunities under title IV not later than 180 days after the date of enactment and shall make the first awards as expeditiously as practicable.

(e) **NO DELAY OF STATUTORY DUTY.**—The absence of a final regulation does not delay a deadline or duty expressly stated in this Act.

1 **SEC. 505. CONTINUITY; NO SUNSET.**

2 (a) **PERMANENT PROGRAM.**—The Council, Advisory Board, Center, grant-making
3 authorities, annual reporting duties, and other programs established by this Act are permanent
4 and remain in effect unless terminated or amended by a subsequent Act of Congress.

5 (b) **CONTINUITY OF AWARDS.**—A change in Council membership, administration,
6 regulation, national strategy, or fiscal year does not terminate a lawful award or obligation,
7 subject to its terms and applicable law.

8 (c) **SAVINGS CLAUSE.**—Nothing in this Act preempts a State, local, Tribal, or territorial child-
9 protection, mandatory-reporting, education, privacy, health, civil-rights, or criminal law that
10 provides equal or greater protection, except to the extent of a direct conflict with a
11 requirement governing Federal funds under this Act.