

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5129

To amend the Community Services Block Grant Act to reauthorize and modernize the Act.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 31, 2021

Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. COMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the Community Services Block Grant Act to reauthorize and modernize the Act.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Community Services  
5 Block Grant Modernization Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION.**

7 Subtitle B of title VI of the Omnibus Budget Rec-  
8 onciliation Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.) is amend-  
9 ed to read as follows:

1    **“Subtitle B—Community Services**  
2                   **Block Grant Program**

3    **“SEC. 671. SHORT TITLE.**

4            “‘This subtitle may be cited as the ‘Community Serv-  
5 ices Block Grant Act’.

6    **“SEC. 672. PURPOSES.**

7            “The purposes of this subtitle are—

8                    “(1) to reduce poverty in the United States by  
9                    supporting the activities of community action agen-  
10                   cies that improve the economic security of low-in-  
11                   come individuals and families and create new eco-  
12                   nomic opportunities in the communities where they  
13                   live; and

14                   “(2) to accomplish the purposes described in  
15                   paragraph (1) by—

16                           “(A) strengthening community capabilities  
17                           for identifying poverty conditions and opportu-  
18                           nities to alleviate such conditions;

19                           “(B) empowering residents of the low-in-  
20                           come communities served to respond to the  
21                           unique problems and needs within their commu-  
22                           nities through their maximum feasible partici-  
23                           pation in advising, planning and evaluating the  
24                           programs, projects, and services funded under  
25                           this subtitle;

1           “(C) using innovative community-based ap-  
2           proaches that produce a measurable impact on  
3           the causes and effects of poverty, including  
4           whole family approaches that create opportuni-  
5           ties for, and address the needs of, parents and  
6           children together;

7           “(D) coordinating Federal, State, local,  
8           and other assistance, including private re-  
9           sources, related to the reduction of poverty so  
10          that resources can be used in a manner respon-  
11          sive to local needs and conditions; and

12          “(E) broadening the resources directed to  
13          the elimination of poverty, so as to promote  
14          partnerships that include—

15                  “(i) private, religious, charitable, and  
16                  neighborhood-based organizations; and

17                  “(ii) individuals, businesses, labor or-  
18                  ganizations, professional organizations,  
19                  and other organizations engaged in ex-  
20                  panding opportunities for all individuals.

21 **“SEC. 673. DEFINITIONS.**

22          “In this subtitle:

23                  “(1) AGENCY-WIDE STRATEGIC PLAN.—The  
24                  term ‘agency-wide strategic plan’ means a plan that  
25                  has been adopted by an eligible entity within the

1 past 5 years and establishes goals that include meet-  
2 ing needs identified by the entity in consultation  
3 with residents of the community through a process  
4 of comprehensive community needs assessment.

5 “(2) COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY.—The term  
6 ‘community action agency’ means an eligible entity  
7 (which meets the requirements of paragraph (1) or  
8 (2), as appropriate, of section 680(c)) that delivers  
9 multiple programs, projects, and services to a variety  
10 of low-income individuals and families.

11 “(3) COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN.—The term  
12 ‘community action plan’ means a detailed plan, in-  
13 cluding a budget, that is adopted by an eligible enti-  
14 ty, for expenditures of funds appropriated for a fis-  
15 cal year under this subtitle for the activities sup-  
16 ported directly or indirectly by such funds.

17 “(4) COMMUNITY SERVICES NETWORK ORGANI-  
18 ZATION.—The term ‘community services network or-  
19 ganization’ means any of the following organizations  
20 funded under this subtitle:

21 “(A) A grantee.

22 “(B) An eligible entity.

23 “(C) An association with a membership  
24 composed primarily of grantees, eligible entities,  
25 or associations of grantees or eligible entities.

1           “(5) DEPARTMENT.—The term ‘Department’  
2 means the Department of Health and Human Serv-  
3 ices.

4           “(6) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-  
5 tity’ means an entity—

6           “(A) that is an eligible entity described in  
7 section 673(1) (as in effect on the day before  
8 the date of enactment of the Community Serv-  
9 ices Block Grant Modernization Act of 2021) as  
10 of the day before such date of enactment, or  
11 has been designated by the process described in  
12 section 680(a) (including an organization serv-  
13 ing migrant or seasonal farmworkers that is so  
14 described or designated); and

15           “(B) that has a tripartite board described  
16 in paragraph (1) or (2), as appropriate, of sec-  
17 tion 680(c).

18           “(7) EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE.—The term  
19 ‘evidence-based practice’ means an activity, strategy,  
20 or intervention that—

21           “(A) demonstrates a statistically signifi-  
22 cant effect on improving relevant outcomes  
23 based on at least one well-designed and well-im-  
24 plemented experimental or quasi-experimental  
25 study, or at least one well-designed and well-im-

1           plemented correlational study with statistical  
2           controls for selection bias, and includes ongoing  
3           efforts to examine the effects of such activity,  
4           strategy, or intervention; or

5           “(B) demonstrates a rationale based on  
6           high-quality research findings or positive eval-  
7           uation that such activity, strategy, or interven-  
8           tion is likely to improve relevant outcomes; and  
9           includes ongoing efforts to examine the effects  
10          of such activity, strategy, or intervention.

11          “(8) GRANTEE.—The term ‘grantee’ means a  
12          recipient of a grant under section 675 or 676 of this  
13          subtitle.

14          “(9) POVERTY LINE.—

15          “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘poverty  
16          line’ means the official poverty line defined by  
17          the Office of Management and Budget, based  
18          on the most recent data available from the Bu-  
19          reau of the Census. The Secretary shall revise  
20          the poverty line annually (or at any shorter in-  
21          terval the Secretary determines to be feasible  
22          and desirable). The required revision shall be  
23          accomplished by multiplying the official poverty  
24          line by the percentage change in the Consumer  
25          Price Index for All Urban Consumers during

1 the annual or other interval immediately pre-  
2 ceding the time at which the revision is made.

3 “(B) COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT  
4 ELIGIBILITY CRITERION.—Subject to subpara-  
5 graph (C), 200 percent of the poverty line, as  
6 defined in subparagraph (A), shall be used as  
7 a criterion of eligibility for services or assist-  
8 ance provided to individuals or families through  
9 the community services block grant program es-  
10 tablished under this subtitle.

11 “(C) PROCEDURES FOR CONTINUED ELIGI-  
12 BILITY.—A State may establish procedures to  
13 ensure that a participant in a program, project,  
14 or service funded under this subtitle remains el-  
15 igible to participate as long as the participant  
16 is successfully progressing toward achievement  
17 of the goals of the program, project, or service,  
18 regardless of any income eligibility criteria used  
19 to determine the participant’s initial eligibility.

20 “(10) PRIVATE, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—

21 The term ‘private, nonprofit organization’ means a  
22 domestic organization that is—

23 “(A) described in section 501(e)(3) of the  
24 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt

1 from taxation under section 501(a) of such  
2 Code; and

3 “(B) described in paragraph (1) or (2) of  
4 section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of  
5 1986.

6 “(11) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’  
7 means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

8 “(12) SERVICE AREA.—The term ‘service area’  
9 means the unique geographic area which the State  
10 has designated as the area to be served by an eligi-  
11 ble entity with funding under section 679(a)(1).

12 “(13) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means any of  
13 the several States, the District of Columbia, the  
14 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the United  
15 States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, or the Com-  
16 monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

17 **“SEC. 674. AUTHORIZATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**  
18 **BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.**

19 “(a) AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary  
20 is authorized to carry out a community services block  
21 grant program and to make grants through the program,  
22 under sections 675 and 676, to States to support local  
23 community action plans carried out by eligible entities to  
24 reduce poverty in the communities served by such entities.



1       “(b) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—The Secretary is  
2 authorized to carry out other community programs de-  
3 scribed in section 690.

4       “(c) UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS,  
5 COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS.—Not-  
6 withstanding any other provision of the Omnibus Budget  
7 Reconciliation Act of 1981 (Public Law 97–35) or of sec-  
8 tion 75.101(d)(1), part 75 of title 45, Code of Federal  
9 Regulations, funds authorized to be appropriated under  
10 this subtitle shall be subject to all subparts of the uniform  
11 administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit re-  
12 quirements for Federal awards as adopted in regulations  
13 promulgated by the Secretary to implement the Uniform  
14 Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit  
15 Requirements under part 200 of title 2, Code of Federal  
16 Regulations, or any corresponding similar regulation (in-  
17 cluding part 75 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations,  
18 or any corresponding similar regulation), except for provi-  
19 sions on termination, withholding and suspension of funds,  
20 as well as all other Federal laws and regulations related  
21 to intergovernmental financial transactions and to admin-  
22 istration of federally funded grants and cooperative agree-  
23 ments between States and nonprofit organizations, or local  
24 governments, as applicable.

1 **“SEC. 675. GRANTS TO TERRITORIES.**

2       “(a) APPORTIONMENT.—The Secretary shall appor-  
3 tion the amount reserved under section 691(c)(1) for each  
4 fiscal year on the basis of need to eligible jurisdictions,  
5 among Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin  
6 Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana  
7 Islands.

8       “(b) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall make a grant to  
9 each eligible jurisdiction to which subsection (a) applies  
10 for the amount apportioned under subsection (a).

11 **“SEC. 676. ALLOTMENTS AND GRANTS TO STATES.**

12       “(a) ALLOTMENTS IN GENERAL.—From the amount  
13 appropriated under section 691(a) for each fiscal year and  
14 remaining after the Secretary makes the reservations re-  
15 quired by section 691(c), the Secretary shall allot to each  
16 eligible State, subject to section 677, an amount that  
17 bears the same ratio to such remaining amount as the  
18 amount received by the State for fiscal year 1981 under  
19 section 221 of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 bore  
20 to the total amount received by all States for fiscal year  
21 1981 under such section, except as provided in subsection  
22 (b).

23       “(b) MINIMUM ALLOTMENTS.—

24               “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allot to  
25 each State not less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent of the  
26 amount appropriated under section 691(a) for such

1 fiscal year and remaining after the Secretary makes  
2 the reservations required by section 691(c).

3 “(2) YEARS WITH GREATER AVAILABLE  
4 FUNDS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if the  
5 amount appropriated under section 691(a) for a fis-  
6 cal year and remaining after the Secretary makes  
7 the reservations required by section 691(c) exceeds  
8 \$900,000,000, no State shall receive under this sec-  
9 tion less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of 1 percent of the remaining  
10 amount.

11 “(c) GRANTS AND PAYMENTS.—Subject to section  
12 677, the Secretary shall make grants to eligible States for  
13 the allotments described in subsections (a) and (b). The  
14 Secretary shall make payments for the grants in accord-  
15 ance with section 6503(a) of title 31, United States Code.  
16 The Secretary shall allocate the amounts allotted under  
17 subsections (a) and (b) quarterly, notify the States of their  
18 respective allocations and make each State’s quarterly al-  
19 location amount available for expenditure by the State no  
20 later than 30 days after the start of the fiscal quarter for  
21 which the Secretary is allocating the funds.

22 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘State’  
23 does not include Guam, American Samoa, the United  
24 States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the  
25 Northern Mariana Islands.

1 **“SEC. 677. PAYMENTS TO INDIAN TRIBES.**

2 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

3 “(1) INDIAN.—The term ‘Indian’ means a  
4 member of an Indian tribe or tribal organization.

5 “(2) INDIAN TRIBE OR TRIBAL ORGANIZA-  
6 TION.—The term ‘Indian tribe or tribal organiza-  
7 tion’ means a tribe, band, or other organized group  
8 recognized in the State in which the tribe, band, or  
9 group resides, or considered by the Secretary of the  
10 Interior, to be an Indian tribe or an Indian organi-  
11 zation for any purpose.

12 “(b) RESERVATION.—

13 “(1) APPLICATION.—Paragraph (2) shall apply  
14 only if, with respect to any State, the Secretary—

15 “(A) receives a request from the governing  
16 body of an Indian tribe or tribal organization  
17 within such State that assistance under this  
18 subtitle be made available directly to such tribe  
19 or organization; and

20 “(B) determines that the members of such  
21 Indian tribe or tribal organization would be bet-  
22 ter served by means of grants made directly to  
23 such tribe or organization to provide benefits  
24 under this subtitle.

25 “(2) AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall reserve  
26 from amounts allotted to a State under section 676

1 for a fiscal year, not less than the amount that bears  
2 the same ratio to the State allotment for the fiscal  
3 year as the population of all eligible Indians for  
4 whom a determination has been made under para-  
5 graph (1) bears to the population of all individuals  
6 eligible for assistance through a grant made under  
7 section 676 to such State.

8 “(c) AWARDS.—The amount reserved by the Sec-  
9 retary on the basis of a determination made under sub-  
10 section (b)(1)(B) shall be made available by grant to the  
11 Indian tribe or tribal organization serving the Indians for  
12 whom the determination has been made under subsection  
13 (b)(1)(B).

14 “(d) PLAN.—In order for an Indian tribe or tribal  
15 organization to be eligible for a grant award for a fiscal  
16 year under this section, the tribe or organization shall sub-  
17 mit to the Secretary a plan for such fiscal year that meets  
18 such criteria as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation.

19 “(e) ALTERNATIVE PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT  
20 SYSTEM.—The Secretary may implement alternative re-  
21 quirements for tribal implementation of the requirements  
22 of section 686(a).

23 **“SEC. 678. STATE PLANS AND APPLICATIONS; COMMUNITY**  
24 **ACTION PLANS AND APPLICATIONS.**

25 “(a) STATE LEAD AGENCY.—

1           “(1) DESIGNATION.—The chief executive officer  
2 of a State desiring to receive a grant under section  
3 675 or 676 shall designate, in an application sub-  
4 mitted to the Secretary under subsection (b), an ap-  
5 propriate State agency that agrees to comply with  
6 the requirements of paragraph (2), to act as a lead  
7 agency for purposes of carrying out State activities  
8 under this subtitle.

9           “(2) DUTIES OF STATE LEAD AGENCIES.—The  
10 State lead agency—

11           “(A) shall be authorized by the chief execu-  
12 tive officer to convene State agencies and co-  
13 ordinate information and activities funded  
14 under this subtitle;

15           “(B) shall develop the State plan to be  
16 submitted to the Secretary under subsection  
17 (b), which shall be based primarily on the com-  
18 munity action plans of eligible entities, sub-  
19 mitted to the State as a condition of receiving  
20 funding under this subtitle;

21           “(C) in conjunction with the development  
22 or revision of the State plan as required under  
23 subsection (b)—

24           “(i) shall hold at least one hearing in  
25 the State on the proposed plan or proposed

1 revised plan, to provide to the public an  
2 opportunity to comment on the public  
3 record on the proposed use and distribu-  
4 tion of funds under the plan; and

5 “(ii) not less than 15 days prior to  
6 the hearing, shall distribute notice of the  
7 hearing and a copy of the proposed plan or  
8 plan revision statewide to the public and  
9 directly to the chief executive officer and  
10 the chairperson of the board of each of the  
11 eligible entities (or designees) and other  
12 community services network organizations;  
13 and

14 “(D) not less often than every 3 years, in  
15 conjunction with the development of the State  
16 plan, shall hold at least 1 legislative hearing.

17 “(b) STATE APPLICATION FOR STATE PROGRAM AND  
18 STATE PLAN.—Beginning with the first fiscal year fol-  
19 lowing the transition period described in section 3 of the  
20 Community Services Block Grant Modernization Act of  
21 2021, to be eligible to receive a grant under section 675  
22 or 676, a State shall prepare and submit to the Secretary  
23 for approval an application containing a State plan cov-  
24 ering a period of not more than 2 fiscal years. The applica-  
25 tion shall be submitted not later than 60 days prior to

1 the beginning of the first fiscal year covered by the plan,  
2 and shall contain such information as the Secretary shall  
3 require, including—

4           “(1) a description of the manner in which funds  
5           made available through the grant under section 675  
6           or 676 will be used to carry out the State activities  
7           described in section 679(b) and the State’s commu-  
8           nity action plans;

9           “(2) a description summarizing the community  
10          action plans of the eligible entities serving the State;

11          “(3) an assurance that the State and all eligible  
12          entities in the State will participate in a perform-  
13          ance measurement system under section  
14          686(a)(1)(A);

15          “(4) a plan for the State’s oversight of eligible  
16          entities;

17          “(5) an assurance that the State will pay eligi-  
18          ble entities in advance consistent with the Uniform  
19          Guidance;

20          “(6) an assurance that no eligible entity in the  
21          State that received, in the previous fiscal year, fund-  
22          ing through a grant made under section 675 or 676  
23          will have such funding withheld, nor reduced below  
24          the proportional share of funding the entity received  
25          from the State in the previous fiscal year, nor elimi-



1 nated, nor its designation as an eligible entity termi-  
2 nated, unless, after providing the affected entity (or  
3 entities, as applicable) with notice and an oppor-  
4 tunity for a hearing on the record, the State deter-  
5 mines that cause exists for such withholding, reduc-  
6 tion, or elimination of funding or for termination of  
7 designation, subject to review by the Secretary as  
8 provided in subsection (c) of section 684; and, in the  
9 case of failure of an eligible entity to comply with  
10 the terms of a corrective action plan relating to cor-  
11 rection of a serious deficiency, except according to  
12 the procedures set forth in subsection (b) of section  
13 684. For purposes of this subsection, the term  
14 ‘cause’ means—

15 “(A) the failure of an eligible entity to  
16 comply with the terms of a corrective action  
17 plan relating to correction of a serious defi-  
18 ciency as described in subsection 684(b); or

19 “(B) a statewide proportional distribution  
20 of funds provided through a community services  
21 block grant under this subtitle to respond to—

22 “(i) the results of the most recently  
23 available census or other appropriate de-  
24 mographic data;

25 “(ii) severe economic dislocation; or

1                   “(iii) the designation of an eligible en-  
2                   tity to serve a geographic area that has  
3                   been unserved for at least the previous 5  
4                   years;

5                   “(7) an assurance that each eligible entity serv-  
6                   ing the State has established procedures that permit  
7                   a low-income individual or organization to petition  
8                   for adequate representation of such individuals or  
9                   organizations, respectively, on the board of the eligi-  
10                  ble entity; and

11                  “(8) a description of outcome measures to be  
12                  used to measure State and eligible entity perform-  
13                  ance in achieving the goals of the State plan and the  
14                  community action plans, respectively.

15                  “(c) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall notify the chief  
16                  executive officer of each State submitting an application  
17                  containing a State plan under this section, of the approval,  
18                  disapproval, or approval in part, of the application, within  
19                  45 days after receiving the application. In the event of  
20                  a full or partial disapproval, the Secretary’s notification  
21                  shall include a description of changes necessary for final  
22                  approval. In the event of a partial approval, the Secretary  
23                  may allow grantee use of funds for activities included in  
24                  the portions of the plan which the Secretary has approved.  
25                  In the event a State application fails to be approved in

1 whole or in part before the end of the third month of the  
2 period covered by such plan the Secretary may award  
3 funding directly to eligible entities and other community  
4 services network organizations in the State (other than the  
5 State itself) as specified in section 684(a)(5)(B).

6 “(d) PUBLIC INSPECTION.—Each plan and revision  
7 to a State plan prepared under this section shall be dis-  
8 tributed for public inspection and comment. A hearing on  
9 such plan or revision shall be held as required under sub-  
10 paragraphs (C) and (D) of subsection (a)(2), but a State  
11 application for merger, combination, or privatization of en-  
12 tities under section 680(b) shall not be considered a revi-  
13 sion.

14 “(e) ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICATION AND COMMU-  
15 NITY ACTION PLAN.—Beginning with the first fiscal year  
16 following the transition period described in section 3 of  
17 the Community Services Block Grant Modernization Act  
18 of 2021, to be eligible to receive a subgrant under section  
19 679(a), each eligible entity shall prepare and submit to  
20 the State an application containing a community action  
21 plan or plans covering a period of not more than 2 fiscal  
22 years. Such application shall be submitted in a reasonable  
23 and timely manner as required by the State. The applica-  
24 tion shall contain information on the intended implemen-

1 tation of the eligible entity’s activities, including dem-  
2 onstrating how the activities will—

3 “(1) meet needs identified in the most recent  
4 comprehensive community needs assessment which  
5 has been conducted within the past 3 years and  
6 which may be coordinated with community needs as-  
7 sessments conducted for other programs; and

8 “(2) achieve the purposes of this subtitle  
9 through programs, projects, and services.

10 **“SEC. 679. STATE AND LOCAL USES OF FUNDS.**

11 “(a) STATE SUBGRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES AND  
12 OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives a  
14 grant under section 675 or 676 shall use not less  
15 than 90 percent to make subgrants to eligible enti-  
16 ties that enable the entities to implement programs,  
17 projects, and services for a purpose described in sec-  
18 tion 672.

19 “(2) OBLIGATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

20 “(A) DATE OF OBLIGATION.—The State  
21 shall obligate the funds for subgrants described  
22 in paragraph (1) not later than the later of—

23 “(i) the 30th day after the date on  
24 which the State receives from the Sec-  
25 retary a notice of funding availability for

1 the State’s application under section 678;  
2 or

3 “(ii) the first day of the State pro-  
4 gram year for which such funds are to be  
5 expended under the State application.

6 “(B) AVAILABILITY.—The State shall  
7 make available to eligible entities for expendi-  
8 ture the funds for subgrants described in para-  
9 graph (1) not later than 30 days after receiving  
10 notice from the Secretary of the State’s quar-  
11 terly allocation under section 676(c). Funds al-  
12 located to eligible entities through subgrants  
13 made under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year  
14 shall be available for obligation by the eligible  
15 entity during that fiscal year and the suc-  
16 ceeding fiscal year.

17 “(b) STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES.—

18 “(1) USE OF REMAINDER.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives  
20 a grant under section 675 or 676 shall, after  
21 carrying out subsection (a), use the remainder  
22 of the grant funds for activities described in the  
23 State’s application under section 678(b) as de-  
24 scribed in subparagraph (B) and for adminis-

1 trative expenses subject to the limitations in  
2 paragraph (2).

3 “(B) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-  
4 ANCE.—After applying subsection (a), the State  
5 may use the remaining grant funds for the pur-  
6 poses of—

7 “(i) providing to eligible entities train-  
8 ing and technical assistance and resources  
9 to respond to statewide or regional condi-  
10 tions that create economic insecurity, in-  
11 cluding, but not limited to, emergency con-  
12 ditions;

13 “(ii) supporting professional develop-  
14 ment activities for eligible entities that en-  
15 hance the skills of their local personnel (in-  
16 cluding members of the board of directors  
17 of such entities) in organizational manage-  
18 ment, service delivery, and program devel-  
19 opment and management, giving priority to  
20 activities carried out through partnerships  
21 of such entities with institutions of higher  
22 education;

23 “(iii) supporting information and com-  
24 munication resources for the comprehen-

1           sive community needs assessments de-  
2           scribed in section 678(e)(1);

3           “(iv) supporting performance meas-  
4           urement systems consistent with the re-  
5           quirements of section 686;

6           “(v) promoting coordination and co-  
7           operation among eligible entities in the  
8           State, including supporting activities of a  
9           statewide association of community serv-  
10          ices network organizations;

11          “(vi) providing training and technical  
12          assistance and resources to assist eligible  
13          entities in building and using evidence de-  
14          signed to reduce poverty conditions, includ-  
15          ing entities participating in or proposing to  
16          participate in the Community Action Inno-  
17          vations Program established under section  
18          682(a)(2); and

19          “(vii) supporting efforts of eligible en-  
20          tities to identify and respond to physical  
21          and behavioral health challenges (including  
22          substance use disorders) experienced by  
23          low-income individuals, families, and com-  
24          munities.

25          “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE CAP.—

1           “(A) LIMITATION.—Of the amounts re-  
2           maining after the required funding for sub-  
3           grants described under subsection (a)(1), a  
4           State shall not spend more than 5 percent of its  
5           grant under section 675 or 676 for administra-  
6           tive expenses.

7           “(B) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the  
8           term ‘administrative expenses’—

9                   “(i) means the costs incurred by the  
10                  State’s lead agency for carrying out plan-  
11                  ning and management activities, including  
12                  monitoring, oversight, and reporting as re-  
13                  quired by this Act; and

14                   “(ii) does not include the cost of ac-  
15                  tivities conducted under paragraph (1)(B)  
16                  other than monitoring.

17           “(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITY USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible  
18           entity that receives a subgrant under subsection (a)(1)  
19           shall use the subgrant funds to carry out a community  
20           action plan that shall include—

21                   “(1) programs, projects, and services that pro-  
22                  vide low-income individuals and families with oppor-  
23                  tunities—

24                   “(A) to identify and develop strategies to  
25                  remove obstacles and solve problems that block



1 access to opportunity, economic stability, and  
2 achievement of self-sufficiency;

3 “(B) to secure and retain meaningful em-  
4 ployment at a family supporting wage;

5 “(C) to secure an adequate education, im-  
6 prove literacy and language skills, and obtain  
7 job-related skills;

8 “(D) to make effective use of available in-  
9 come and build assets;

10 “(E) to obtain and maintain adequate  
11 housing and a safe and healthy living environ-  
12 ment;

13 “(F) to address health needs and improve  
14 health and well-being;

15 “(G) to obtain emergency materials or  
16 other assistance to meet immediate individual  
17 or community urgent needs and prevent greater  
18 or more prolonged economic instability; and

19 “(H) to achieve greater participation in  
20 community affairs; and

21 “(2) activities that develop and maintain—

22 “(A) partnerships for the purpose of ad-  
23 dressing community, economic, and social con-  
24 ditions of poverty and promoting healthy com-  
25 munities, between the eligible entity and—

1                   “(i) State and local public entities;  
2                   and

3                   “(ii) private partners, including state-  
4                   wide and local businesses, associations of  
5                   private employers, and private charitable  
6                   and civic organizations;

7                   “(B) linkages with public and private orga-  
8                   nizations for coordinating initiatives, services,  
9                   and investments so as to avoid duplication, and  
10                  maximize the effective use of community re-  
11                  sources for creating economic opportunity, in-  
12                  cluding developing lasting social and economic  
13                  assets; and

14                  “(C) new investments in the community to  
15                  reduce the incidence of poverty, including devel-  
16                  oping lasting social and economic assets.

17 **“SEC. 680. ELIGIBLE ENTITIES AND TRIPARTITE BOARDS.**

18                  “(a) DESIGNATION AND REDESIGNATION OF ELIGI-  
19                  BLE ENTITIES IN UNSERVED AREAS.—

20                  “(1) IN GENERAL.—If any geographic area of a  
21                  State is not, or ceases to be, served by an eligible  
22                  entity, the State lead agency may, in consultation  
23                  with local officials and organizations representing  
24                  the area, solicit one or more applications and des-  
25                  ignate a new community action agency to provide

1 programs, projects, and services to the area, that  
2 is—

3 “(A) a community action agency that is a  
4 private, nonprofit organization and that is geo-  
5 graphically located in an area within reasonable  
6 proximity of, or contiguous to, the unserved  
7 area that is already providing similar programs,  
8 projects, and services, and that has dem-  
9 onstrated financial capacity to manage and ac-  
10 count for Federal funds; or

11 “(B) if no community action agency de-  
12 scribed in subparagraph (A) is available, a pri-  
13 vate, nonprofit organization (which may include  
14 an eligible entity) that is geographically located  
15 in, or is in reasonable proximity to, the  
16 unserved area and that is capable of providing  
17 a broad range of programs, projects, and serv-  
18 ices designed to achieve the purposes of this  
19 subtitle as stated in section 672.

20 “(2) REQUIREMENT.—In order to serve as the  
21 eligible entity for the service area, an entity de-  
22 scribed in paragraph (1) shall agree to ensure that  
23 the governing board of directors of the entity will  
24 meet the requirements of subsection (c).

1           “(3) COMMUNITY.—A service area referred to  
2           in this subsection or a portion thereof shall be treat-  
3           ed as a community for purposes of this subtitle.

4           “(b) MERGER, COMBINATION, OR PRIVATIZATION OF  
5 ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

6           “(1) IN GENERAL.—If an eligible entity receiv-  
7           ing subgrant funds makes a determination described  
8           in paragraph (2) and notifies the State, the State—

9                   “(A) shall assist in developing a plan for  
10                  implementing such merger, combination, or pri-  
11                  vatization, including a budget for transitional  
12                  costs not to exceed 2 years in duration;

13                  “(B) in the case of a merger or combina-  
14                  tion, shall provide to the merged or combined  
15                  entity an amount of funding under section  
16                  679(a)(1) equal to the sum of amounts the  
17                  merged or combined entities each received  
18                  under section 679(a)(1) immediately prior to  
19                  the merger or combination.

20           “(2) COVERED MERGER, COMBINATION, OR PRI-  
21           VATIZATION.—This subsection applies when—

22                   “(A) 2 or more eligible entities determine  
23                  that the geographic areas of a State that they  
24                  serve can be more effectively served under com-  
25                  mon control or shared management; or

1           “(B) a public organization that is an eligi-  
2           ble entity determines that the area it serves can  
3           be more effectively served if it becomes a pri-  
4           vate, nonprofit organization.

5           “(3) PLANS.—A State may establish require-  
6           ments for merger, combination, or privatization  
7           plans and for a determination that the merged, com-  
8           bined, or privatized entity, or entities, will be capa-  
9           ble of conducting a broad range of programs,  
10          projects, and services designed to achieve the pur-  
11          poses of this subtitle as stated in section 672 con-  
12          sistent with the comprehensive needs assessments  
13          for the areas served.

14          “(4) STATE DETERMINATION.—If a State de-  
15          termines that a merged, combined, or privatized en-  
16          tity or entities will be capable of conducting a broad  
17          range of programs, projects, and services as speci-  
18          fied in subsection (b)(3) above, it shall designate the  
19          merged, combined, or privatized entity or entities to  
20          serve the area(s) in question without soliciting appli-  
21          cations from other entities.

22          “(c) TRIPARTITE BOARDS.—

23                 “(1) PRIVATE, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.—

24                         “(A) BOARD.—In order for a private, non-  
25                         profit organization to be considered to be an eli-

1           gible entity for purposes of section 673(6), the  
2           entity shall be governed by a tripartite board of  
3           directors described in subparagraph (C) that  
4           fully participates in the development, planning,  
5           implementation, oversight, and evaluation of the  
6           programs, projects, and services carried out or  
7           provided through the subgrant made under sec-  
8           tion 679(a)(1) and all activities of the entity.

9           “(B) SELECTION.—The members of the  
10          board referred to in subparagraph (A) shall be  
11          selected by the private, nonprofit organization.

12          “(C) COMPOSITION OF BOARD.—The board  
13          shall be composed so as to assure that—

14                 “(i)  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the members of the board  
15                 are elected public officials holding office on  
16                 the date of selection, or their representa-  
17                 tives (but if an elected public official  
18                 chooses not to serve, such official may des-  
19                 ignate a representative to serve as the vot-  
20                 ing board member);

21                 “(ii)(I) not fewer than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the mem-  
22                 bers are persons chosen in accordance with  
23                 democratic selection procedures adequate  
24                 to assure that the members referred to in  
25                 this clause are representative of low-income

1 individuals and families in the service area;  
2 and

3 “(II) each member who is a represent-  
4 ative of low-income individuals and families  
5 and is also selected to represent a specific  
6 geographic area under subclause (I) resides  
7 in such area; and

8 “(iii) the remainder of the members  
9 may be comprised of representatives from  
10 business, industry, labor, religious, edu-  
11 cational, charitable, or other significant  
12 private groups in the community.

13 “(D) EXPERTISE.—The eligible entity  
14 shall ensure that the members of the board in-  
15 clude, or have direct access to, individuals with  
16 expertise in financial management, accounting,  
17 and law.

18 “(E) COMPLIANCE WITH TAX-EXEMPT AND  
19 OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—The board of a pri-  
20 vate, nonprofit organization shall ensure that  
21 the board operates and conducts activities  
22 under the subgrant made under section  
23 679(a)(1) in a manner that complies with—

24 “(i) the requirements for maintaining  
25 tax-exempt status under section 501(a) of

1 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26  
2 U.S.C. 501(a)) regarding the governance  
3 of charities under section 501(c)(3) of the  
4 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C.  
5 501(c)(3)); and

6 “(ii) applicable requirements of State  
7 nonprofit corporation law.

8 “(2) PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS.—

9 “(A) BOARD.—In order for a local public  
10 (governmental) entity to be considered to be an  
11 eligible entity for purposes of section 673(6),  
12 the entity shall ensure that the programs,  
13 projects, and services carried out or provided  
14 through the subgrant made under section  
15 679(a)(1) are administered under the super-  
16 vision of a tripartite board described in sub-  
17 paragraph (C) that fully participates in the de-  
18 velopment, planning, implementation, oversight,  
19 and evaluation of such programs, projects, and  
20 services.

21 “(B) SELECTION.—The members of the  
22 board referred to in subparagraph (A) shall be  
23 selected by the local public entity.

24 “(C) COMPOSITION OF BOARD.—The board  
25 shall be composed so as to assure that—



1           “(i) not more than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the members  
2           of the board are employees or officials, in-  
3           cluding elected officials, of the unit of gov-  
4           ernment in which the organization is lo-  
5           cated;

6           “(ii)(I) not fewer than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the mem-  
7           bers are persons chosen in accordance with  
8           democratic selection procedures adequate  
9           to assure that the members referred to in  
10          this clause are representative of low-income  
11          individuals and families in the service area;  
12          and

13          “(II) each member who is a represent-  
14          ative of low-income individuals and families  
15          and is also selected to represent a specific  
16          geographic area under subclause (I) resides  
17          in such area; and

18          “(iii) the remainder of the members  
19          may be comprised of representatives from  
20          business, industry, labor, religious, edu-  
21          cational, charitable, or other significant  
22          private groups in the community.

23          “(D) EXPERTISE.—The organization shall  
24          ensure that the members of the board include  
25          or have direct access to individuals with exper-

1           tise in financial management, accounting, and  
2           law.

3           “(E) COMPLIANCE WITH STATE REQUIRE-  
4           MENTS AND POLICY.—The board of a public or-  
5           ganization shall ensure that the board operates  
6           in a manner that complies with State require-  
7           ments for open meetings, financial trans-  
8           parency, and State open records policy.

9           “(3) SAFEGUARD.—Neither the Federal Gov-  
10          ernment nor a State or local government shall re-  
11          quire a religious organization to alter its form of in-  
12          ternal governance, except (for purposes of adminis-  
13          tration of the community services block grant pro-  
14          gram) as provided in section 680(c).

15          “(d) OPERATIONS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD.—  
16          The duties of a board described in paragraph (1) or (2)  
17          of subsection (c) shall include—

18                 “(1) in the case of a board for a private, non-  
19                 profit organization that is an eligible entity, having  
20                 legal and financial responsibility for administering  
21                 and overseeing the eligible entity, including making  
22                 proper use of Federal funds;

23                 “(2) establishing terms for officers and adopt-  
24                 ing a code of ethical conduct, including a conflict of  
25                 interest policy for board members;

1           “(3) participating in each comprehensive com-  
2           munity needs assessment, developing and adopting  
3           for the corresponding eligible entity an agency-wide  
4           strategic plan, and preparing the community action  
5           plan for the use of funds under this subtitle;

6           “(4) approving the eligible entity’s operating  
7           budget;

8           “(5) reviewing all major policies of the eligible  
9           entity, including conducting (for private, nonprofit  
10          organizations that are eligible entities) and partici-  
11          pating in (for local public entities that are eligible  
12          entities) annual performance reviews of the eligible  
13          entity’s chief executive officer (or individual holding  
14          an equivalent position);

15          “(6) conducting assessments of the eligible enti-  
16          ty’s progress in carrying out programmatic and fis-  
17          cal provisions in the community action plan, and in  
18          taking any corrective action; and

19          “(7) adopting (for private, nonprofit organiza-  
20          tions that are eligible entities) and reviewing (for  
21          local public entities that are eligible entities) per-  
22          sonnel policies and procedures, including policies and  
23          procedures for hiring, annual evaluation, compensa-  
24          tion, and termination, of the eligible entity’s chief

1 executive officer (or individual holding a similar po-  
2 sition).

3 **“SEC. 681. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES.**

4 “(a) OFFICE.—

5 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-  
6 tablish an Office of Community Services in the De-  
7 partment to carry out the functions of this subtitle.

8 “(2) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by  
9 a Director (referred to in this section as the ‘Direc-  
10 tor’).

11 “(b) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE  
12 AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary, acting through the Direc-  
13 tor, shall carry out the functions of this subtitle through  
14 grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements.

15 **“SEC. 682. TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND RE-  
16 LATED ACTIVITIES.**

17 “(a) ACTIVITIES.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

19 “(A) use amounts reserved under section  
20 691(c)(2) for training, technical assistance,  
21 planning, evaluation, and performance measure-  
22 ment, as described in this section and in sec-  
23 tions 684 and 686, to assist States, eligible en-  
24 tities, and other community services network  
25 organizations in—

1 “(i) building and using evidence de-  
2 signed to reduce poverty conditions, includ-  
3 ing through development and dissemina-  
4 tion of information about clearinghouses  
5 and other resources that identify relevant  
6 evidence-based initiatives, for use in con-  
7 nection with the Community Action Inno-  
8 vations Program established under para-  
9 graph (2);

10 “(ii) carrying out professional develop-  
11 ment activities that expand the capacity of  
12 eligible entities;

13 “(iii) carrying out performance meas-  
14 urement, reporting, and data collection ac-  
15 tivities related to programs, projects, and  
16 services carried out under this subtitle; and

17 “(iv) correcting programmatic defi-  
18 ciencies, including such deficiencies of eli-  
19 gible entities; and

20 “(B) distribute the amounts reserved  
21 under section 691(c)(2)(A) through grants, con-  
22 tracts, or cooperative agreements with entities,  
23 organizations, and associations described in  
24 subsection (b) for—

1           “(i) professional development for key  
2           community services network organization  
3           personnel;

4           “(ii) activities to improve community  
5           services network organization program, fi-  
6           nancial management, compliance, and gov-  
7           ernance practices (including practices re-  
8           lated to performance management informa-  
9           tion systems);

10          “(iii) activities that train community  
11          services network organizations and their  
12          staff and board members to effectively ad-  
13          dress the needs of low-income families and  
14          communities through place-based strategies  
15          that address local causes and conditions of  
16          poverty through coordinated investment  
17          and integrated service delivery; and

18          “(iv) activities that train community  
19          services network organizations in building  
20          and using evidence designed to reduce pov-  
21          erty conditions and that support effective  
22          administration of funds under the Commu-  
23          nity Action Innovations Program estab-  
24          lished under paragraph (2).

1           “(2) INNOVATIVE AND EVIDENCE-BASED  
2 PROJECTS TO REDUCE POVERTY.—

3           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
4 use amounts reserved under section 691(e)(3)  
5 for a Community Action Innovations Program  
6 to—

7           “(i) award grants, contracts, or coop-  
8 erative agreements to eligible entities, their  
9 associations, or consortia of such entities  
10 or associations, to facilitate innovation and  
11 use of evidence-based practice (as defined  
12 in section 673(7)) designed to reduce pov-  
13 erty conditions, including through whole  
14 family approaches that create opportunities  
15 for, and address the needs of, parents and  
16 children together; and

17           “(ii) disseminate results for public  
18 use.

19           “(B) PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall  
20 award funds from its Community Action Inno-  
21 vations Program for projects to enable—

22           “(i) replication and/or expansion of in-  
23 novative practices with demonstrated evi-  
24 dence of effectiveness, with priority given  
25 to those with the strongest evidence base

1 as determined through a broad review of  
2 available studies; and/or

3 “(ii) testing of innovative practices to  
4 determine their effectiveness, with priority  
5 given to those incorporating rigorous, inde-  
6 pendent evaluation to further build the evi-  
7 dence base.

8 “(C) USE OF FUNDS.—The funds reserved  
9 for use under this paragraph may be used by  
10 grantees for resources or activities necessary to  
11 replicate, expand, or test innovative and evi-  
12 dence-based practices, including costs of train-  
13 ing and technical assistance, evaluation, data  
14 collection, and technology.

15 “(D) EXPENSES.—The funds reserved for  
16 use under this paragraph may be used for rea-  
17 sonable expenses of grantees, associated with  
18 administration of projects and dissemination of  
19 their results.

20 “(E) AWARDS AND OBLIGATION.—The  
21 Secretary shall award and obligate funds re-  
22 served for projects under this paragraph during  
23 the first program year for which the funds are  
24 appropriated. Grant funds awarded under this  
25 paragraph shall remain available for expendi-



1           ture by the grantee for up to 36 months after  
2           the date of award by the Secretary, unless a  
3           longer period of availability is approved by the  
4           Secretary based on extenuating circumstances  
5           and demonstrated evidence of effectiveness.

6           “(F) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—In the  
7           case of innovative projects that are funded in  
8           part by funds authorized under a Federal law  
9           (other than this subtitle), that includes require-  
10          ments for matching the Federal funds with  
11          non-Federal funds, funds made available for use  
12          under this paragraph may be deemed to be non-  
13          Federal funds for purposes of the requirements  
14          of such law.

15          “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND AS-  
16          SOCIATIONS.—Eligible entities, organizations, and associa-  
17          tions described in this subsection shall include eligible en-  
18          tities and other community services network organizations  
19          (and their partners, including institutions of higher edu-  
20          cation), with demonstrated expertise in providing training  
21          for individuals and organizations on methods of effectively  
22          addressing the needs of low-income families and commu-  
23          nities.

24          “(c) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROC-  
25          ESS.—The process for determining the training and tech-

1 nical assistance to be carried out under this section  
2 shall—

3           “(1) ensure that the needs of eligible entities  
4           and programs relating to improving program quality  
5           (including quality of financial management prac-  
6           tices) are addressed to the maximum extent feasible;  
7           and

8           “(2) incorporate mechanisms to ensure respon-  
9           siveness to local needs, including an ongoing proce-  
10          dure for obtaining input from the national and State  
11          networks of eligible entities.

12 **“SEC. 683. STATE MONITORING OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.**

13          “In order to determine whether eligible entities re-  
14          ceiving subgrants under this subtitle meet performance  
15          goals, administrative standards, financial management re-  
16          quirements, and other requirements under this subtitle,  
17          the State shall conduct the following reviews of eligible  
18          entities:

19               “(1) A full onsite review of each eligible entity  
20               at least once during each 3-year period.

21               “(2) An onsite review of each newly designated  
22               eligible entity immediately after the completion of  
23               the first year in which such entity receives funds  
24               through the community services block grant program  
25               under this subtitle.

1           “(3) Followup reviews, including onsite reviews  
2           scheduled in a corrective action plan (including re-  
3           turn visits), within a calendar quarter for eligible en-  
4           tities with programs, projects, or services that fail to  
5           meet the State’s performance criteria, standards, fi-  
6           nancial management requirements, and other signifi-  
7           cant requirements established under this subtitle.

8           “(4) Other reviews as appropriate, including re-  
9           views of eligible entities with programs, projects, and  
10          services that have had other Federal, State, or local  
11          grants (other than assistance provided under this  
12          subtitle) terminated for cause.

13 **“SEC. 684. EVALUATIONS; CORRECTIVE ACTION; WITH-**  
14 **HOLDING, REDUCTION, OR ELIMINATION OF**  
15 **FUNDING.**

16          “(a) EVALUATIONS OF STATES BY THE SEC-  
17          RETARY.—

18           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-  
19          duct, in not fewer than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the States in each fis-  
20          cal year, evaluations (including investigations) of  
21          State compliance with this subtitle, including re-  
22          quirements relating to the use of funds received  
23          under this subtitle, and especially with respect to  
24          compliance with the requirements of State plans  
25          submitted under section 678(b) and the uniform ad-

1       ministrative requirements, cost principles, and audit  
2       requirements described in section 674(c) as applied  
3       to funds received under this subtitle, including, but  
4       not limited to, advance payment of such funds to eli-  
5       gible entities, consistent with the Uniform Guidance.

6               “(2) REPORT TO STATES.—The Secretary shall  
7       submit to each State evaluated, and make available  
8       to the public, a report containing—

9                       “(A) the results of such evaluation; and

10                      “(B)(i) recommendations for improvements  
11       designed to enhance the benefit and impact of  
12       the activities carried out with such funds; and

13                      “(ii) in the event a serious deficiency is  
14       found regarding a State’s compliance with this  
15       subtitle, including requirements relating to the  
16       use of funds received under this subtitle, a pro-  
17       posed corrective action plan.

18               “(3) STATE RESPONSE.—Not later than 45  
19       days after receiving a report under paragraph (2)—

20                      “(A) a State that received recommenda-  
21       tions under paragraph (2)(B)(i) shall submit to  
22       the Secretary and make available to the public  
23       a plan of action in response to the recommenda-  
24       tions; and

1           “(B) a State that received a proposed cor-  
2           rective action plan under paragraph (2)(B)(ii)  
3           shall agree to implement the corrective action  
4           plan proposed by the Secretary or propose to  
5           the Secretary and make available to the public  
6           a different corrective action plan, developed by  
7           the State in a timely manner that the State will  
8           implement upon approval by the Secretary.

9           “(4) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary  
10          shall submit the results of the evaluations annually,  
11          as part of the report submitted by the Secretary in  
12          accordance with section 686(b)(2).

13          “(5) ENFORCEMENT.—

14                 “(A) REDUCTION OR ELIMINATION OF  
15                 FUNDING.—If the Secretary determines, in a  
16                 final decision on the basis of an evaluation con-  
17                 ducted under this section, that a State fails to  
18                 meet the requirements of this subsection, the  
19                 Secretary may, after providing adequate notice  
20                 and an opportunity for a hearing, initiate pro-  
21                 ceedings to reduce or eliminate the amount of  
22                 funding apportioned and allocated to the State  
23                 as described in section 675 or 676, as applica-  
24                 ble (and, if necessary, de-obligate such fund-  
25                 ing).

1                   “(B) DIRECT AWARDS TO OTHER ENTI-  
2                   TIES.—

3                   “(i) REDUCTION OR ELIMINATION OF  
4                   STATE FUNDING; LACK OF APPROVED  
5                   STATE PLAN.—If the Secretary reduces or  
6                   eliminates funding to a State under sub-  
7                   paragraph (A), the Secretary shall award  
8                   funding directly, in the amount by which  
9                   funding to the State was reduced or elimi-  
10                  nated, as provided under clauses (ii) and  
11                  (iii) below. If, for a particular fiscal year,  
12                  a State plan is not approved by the Sec-  
13                  retary in accordance with section 678(c),  
14                  the Secretary may award funding directly,  
15                  in the amount the State would have re-  
16                  ceived had the plan been approved, as pro-  
17                  vided under clauses (ii) and (iii) below.

18                  “(ii) DIRECT FUNDING TO ELIGIBLE  
19                  ENTITIES.—In the event funding specified  
20                  in section 679(a)(1) is reduced or elimi-  
21                  nated due to the Secretary’s reduction or  
22                  elimination of funding under subparagraph  
23                  (A) or if the Secretary chooses to award  
24                  funding directly due to the lack of an ap-  
25                  proved State plan as authorized in clause

1 (i) above, the Secretary shall award finan-  
2 cial assistance in the amount of such re-  
3 duced or eliminated funding, or in the  
4 amount the State would have received had  
5 a State plan been approved, directly (by  
6 grant or cooperative agreement) to affected  
7 eligible entities (provided that any such en-  
8 tity has not had its funding under this  
9 subtitle eliminated or its designation as an  
10 eligible entity terminated by the State in  
11 accordance with subsections (b) and (c) of  
12 section 684) to carry out the activities de-  
13 scribed in section 679(c); in awarding such  
14 funding, the Secretary shall ensure that  
15 each such affected eligible entity receives  
16 the same proportionate share of funding  
17 under section 679(a)(1) that it received in  
18 the prior fiscal year.

19 “(iii) STATEWIDE FUNDS.—In the  
20 event funding specified in section 679(b) is  
21 reduced or eliminated due to the Sec-  
22 retary’s reduction or elimination of funding  
23 under subparagraph (A) or if the Secretary  
24 chooses to award funding directly due to  
25 the lack of an approved State plan as au-

1           thorized in clause (i) above, the Secretary  
2           shall award amounts equal to the amounts  
3           of such reduced or eliminated funds, or to  
4           the amounts the State would have received  
5           had a State plan been approved, directly  
6           by grant or cooperative agreement to com-  
7           munity services network organizations in  
8           the State (other than the State itself) for  
9           the purposes specified in section 679(b)(1).

10           “(iv) REDUCTION.—In the case of di-  
11           rect funding as provided in this subpara-  
12           graph (B), the Secretary shall reduce fund-  
13           ing the State would otherwise have re-  
14           ceived under section 675 or 676 (and, if  
15           necessary, de-obligate such funding) for  
16           the appropriate fiscal year by an amount  
17           equal to the financial assistance provided  
18           directly by the Secretary to such eligible  
19           entities and community services network  
20           organizations.

21           “(6) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—  
22           The Secretary, through the Department’s own em-  
23           ployees or contractors (rather than under grants,  
24           contracts, or cooperative agreements issued under  
25           section 682), shall provide training and technical as-



1       sistance to States with respect to the development or  
2       implementation of the States' corrective action  
3       plans.

4       “(b) DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY FAIL-  
5       URE TO COMPLY.—

6               “(1) CORRECTIVE ACTION BY ELIGIBLE ENTI-  
7       TIES.—If the State determines, on the basis of a re-  
8       view pursuant to section 683 or section 685, that  
9       there is a serious deficiency regarding an eligible en-  
10      tity's compliance with this subtitle, the State shall  
11      inform the entity of the serious deficiencies that  
12      shall be corrected and provide technical assistance  
13      for the corrective action.

14              “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY CORRECTIVE ACTION  
15      PLANS.—An eligible entity that is found to have a  
16      serious deficiency under paragraph (1) shall develop,  
17      in a timely manner, a corrective action plan that  
18      shall be subject to the approval of the State, and  
19      that shall specify—

20                      “(A) the deficiencies to be corrected;

21                      “(B) the actions to be taken to correct  
22      such deficiencies; and

23                      “(C) the timetable for accomplishment of  
24      the corrective actions specified.

1           “(3) FINAL DECISION.—If the State deter-  
2           mines, on the basis of a final decision in a review  
3           conducted under section 683, that an eligible entity  
4           fails to comply with the terms of a corrective action  
5           plan under paragraph (2) relating to correction of a  
6           serious deficiency for the eligible entity, the State  
7           may, after providing adequate notice and an oppor-  
8           tunity for a hearing, initiate proceedings to withhold,  
9           reduce, or eliminate the funding provided under sec-  
10          tion 679(a)(1) to the eligible entity (including, in the  
11          case of elimination of funding, terminating the des-  
12          ignation under this subtitle of the eligible entity) un-  
13          less the entity corrects the serious deficiency.

14          “(c) REVIEW.—A State’s decision to withhold, re-  
15          duce, or eliminate funding, or to terminate the designation  
16          of an eligible entity (or eligible entities, as applicable) may  
17          be reviewed by the Secretary. Upon request by a commu-  
18          nity services network organization, the Secretary shall re-  
19          view such a determination. The review shall be completed  
20          not later than 60 days after the Secretary receives from  
21          the State all necessary documentation relating to the de-  
22          termination.

23          “(d) DIRECT ASSISTANCE.—Whenever the Secretary  
24          determines that a State has violated the State plan de-  
25          scribed in section 678(b) (including, but not limited to,

1 the assurance described in section 678(b)(6)) and the  
2 State has withheld, reduced, or eliminated the funding  
3 provided under section 679(a) to any eligible entity or en-  
4 tities or terminated the eligible entity designation of any  
5 eligible entity or entities prior to the completion of the  
6 State proceedings described in section 678(b)(6) (includ-  
7 ing, where applicable, the proceedings required by sub-  
8 section (b) of this section 684) and the Secretary’s review  
9 as required by subsection (c) of this section 684, the Sec-  
10 retary may provide financial assistance under this subtitle  
11 to the affected eligible entity or entities directly until the  
12 violation is corrected by the State. In such a case, the Sec-  
13 retary may reduce funding the State would otherwise have  
14 received under section 675 or 676 (and, if necessary, de-  
15 obligate such funding) for the appropriate fiscal year by  
16 an amount equal to the financial assistance provided di-  
17 rectly by the Secretary to such eligible entity or entities.

18 **“SEC. 685. STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL CONTROLS AND AU-**

19 **DITS.**

20 “(a) FISCAL CONTROLS, PROCEDURES, AUDITS, AND  
21 INSPECTIONS.—A State that receives funds under this  
22 subtitle shall—

23 “(1) establish fiscal control and fund account-  
24 ing procedures necessary to assure the proper dis-  
25 bursal of, and accounting for, Federal funds paid to

1 the State under this subtitle, including procedures  
2 for monitoring the funds provided under this sub-  
3 title;

4 “(2) in accordance with subsections (b) and (c),  
5 prepare, not less than once each year, an audit of  
6 the expenditures of the State of amounts received  
7 under this subtitle; and

8 “(3) make appropriate books, documents, pa-  
9 pers, and records available to the Secretary and the  
10 Comptroller General of the United States, or any of  
11 their duly authorized representatives, for examina-  
12 tion, copying, or mechanical reproduction on or off  
13 the premises of the appropriate entity upon a rea-  
14 sonable request for the items.

15 “(b) INDEPENDENT ENTITY.—Subject to subsection  
16 (c), each audit required by subsection (a)(2) shall be con-  
17 ducted by an entity independent of any agency admin-  
18 istering activities or services under this subtitle and shall  
19 be conducted in accordance with generally accepted ac-  
20 counting principles.

21 “(c) SINGLE AUDIT REQUIREMENTS.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any audit under this sub-  
23 section shall be conducted in the manner and to the  
24 extent provided in chapter 75 of title 31, United  
25 States Code (commonly known as the ‘Single Audit

1 Act Amendments of 1984') except in the event a se-  
2 rious financial deficiency is identified.

3 “(2) SERIOUS FINANCIAL DEFICIENCY.—In the  
4 event that such a deficiency is identified, the Sec-  
5 retary shall order—

6 “(A) an audit conducted as described in  
7 subsection (a); or

8 “(B) an audit of each of the accounts in-  
9 volved, in accordance with subsections (b) and  
10 (d).

11 “(d) SUBMISSION OF COPIES.—Not later than 30  
12 days after the completion of each such audit in a State,  
13 the chief executive officer of the State shall submit copies  
14 of such audit, at no charge, to any eligible entity that was  
15 the subject of the audit, to the legislature of the State,  
16 and to the Secretary.

17 “(e) REPAYMENTS.—If the Secretary, after review of  
18 the audit, finds that a State has not expended an amount  
19 of funds in accordance with this subtitle, the State shall  
20 immediately use an amount of State funds equal to the  
21 amount of improperly expended funds for the original pur-  
22 poses for which the grant funds were intended.

23 “(f) RESPONSE TO COMPLAINTS.—The Secretary  
24 shall respond in an expeditious manner to complaints of  
25 a substantial or serious nature that a State has failed to

1 use grant funds received under section 675 or 676 or to  
2 carry out State activities under this subtitle in accordance  
3 with the provisions of this subtitle.

4 “(g) INVESTIGATIONS.—Whenever the Secretary de-  
5 termines that there is a pattern of complaints regarding  
6 failures described in subsection (f) or a complaint of a se-  
7 rious deficiency concerning any State, the Secretary shall  
8 conduct an investigation of the use of the funds received  
9 under this subtitle by such State in order to ensure com-  
10 pliance with the provisions of this subtitle.

11 **“SEC. 686. ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING REQUIRE-**  
12 **MENTS.**

13 “(a) STATE ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING RE-  
14 QUIREMENTS.—

15 “(1) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with the  
17 first fiscal year following the transition period  
18 described in section 3 of the Community Serv-  
19 ices Block Grant Modernization Act of 2021,  
20 each State that receives funds under this sub-  
21 title shall participate, and shall ensure that all  
22 eligible entities in the State participate, in a re-  
23 sults-oriented performance measurement system  
24 that the Secretary is satisfied meets the re-  
25 quirements of section 689(b)(1).

1           “(B) SUBCONTRACTORS.—The State may  
2           elect to have subcontractors of the eligible enti-  
3           ties under this subtitle participate in the re-  
4           sults-oriented performance measurement sys-  
5           tem. If the State makes that election, references  
6           in this section to eligible entities shall be con-  
7           sidered to include such subcontractors.

8           “(C) ELIGIBLE ENTITY REPORTS.—Eligi-  
9           ble entities shall provide the results measured  
10          by their performance measurement system and  
11          such other reports as the State may require.

12          “(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each State receiving  
13          funds under this subtitle shall annually prepare, and  
14          submit to the Secretary by March 31 of each year,  
15          a report on the performance of the State and eligible  
16          entities in the State, including achievement with re-  
17          spect to performance measurements that were used  
18          by community service network organizations in the  
19          State for the prior year. Each State shall also in-  
20          clude in the report—

21                 “(A) an accounting of the expenditure of  
22                 funds received by the State through the com-  
23                 munity services block grant program, including  
24                 an accounting of funds spent on administrative  
25                 or indirect costs by the State and the eligible

1 entities and funds spent by the eligible entities  
2 on local programs, projects, and services;

3 “(B) information on the number and char-  
4 acteristics of participants served under this sub-  
5 title in the State, based on data collected from  
6 the eligible entities;

7 “(C) a summary describing the training  
8 and technical assistance offered by the State  
9 under subparagraph (B) of section 679(b)(1)  
10 during the year covered by the report;

11 “(D) information on the total budget and  
12 activities of the eligible entities receiving sub-  
13 grants from the State under this subtitle, in-  
14 cluding local and private resources available for  
15 a purpose described in section 672; and

16 “(E) a report on the manner in which the  
17 State and eligible entities and other recipients  
18 of funds under this subtitle have implemented  
19 results-oriented management practices based on  
20 their performance measurement systems.

21 “(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

22 “(1) CONTENTS.—Not later than September 30  
23 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall, directly or by  
24 grant or contract, prepare a report including—



1           “(A) the information included in the State  
2           annual reports under subsection (a)(2) for the  
3           preceding fiscal year;

4           “(B) a report on the performance of the  
5           Department in the preceding fiscal year regard-  
6           ing carrying out critical roles and responsibil-  
7           ities under this subtitle, including with regard  
8           to timeliness in apportioning and allotting ap-  
9           propriated funds to States, approvals or notifi-  
10          cations to States concerning State plans and  
11          plan revisions, monitoring of States and imple-  
12          mentation of State corrective action plans, and  
13          implementation of the requirements of the uni-  
14          form administrative requirements, cost prin-  
15          ciples, and audit requirements described in sec-  
16          tion 674(c) with respect to funds appropriated  
17          and activities conducted under this subtitle by  
18          the Department, the States, and other grantees;

19          “(C) a description of the training and tech-  
20          nical assistance activities funded by the Sec-  
21          retary under section 682 and the results of  
22          those activities; and

23          “(D) a report on the Community Action  
24          Innovations Program authorized under section  
25          682(a)(2), including a description of training

1 and technical assistance funded by the Sec-  
2 retary, the rationale for projects that received  
3 support, a description of funded activities and  
4 their results, and a summary of ways in which  
5 the Program has expanded use of evidence-  
6 based practice or contributed to building the  
7 evidence base designed to reduce poverty condi-  
8 tions.

9 “(2) SUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall submit  
10 to the Committee on Education and Labor of the  
11 House of Representatives and to the Committee on  
12 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-  
13 ate the report described in paragraph (1) and any  
14 recommendations the Secretary may have with re-  
15 spect to such report.

16 “(3) ELECTRONIC DATA SYSTEM FOR REPORTS  
17 TO STATES AND ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The Sec-  
18 retary, through the Department’s own employees or  
19 contractors (rather than under grants, contracts, or  
20 cooperative agreements issued under section 682),  
21 shall provide technical assistance, including support  
22 for the development and maintenance of an elec-  
23 tronic data system for the reports under this section,  
24 to the States and eligible entities to enhance the  
25 quality and timeliness of reports submitted under

1 this subtitle. The system shall be coordinated and  
2 consistent with the data systems established for  
3 other programs of the Department that are managed  
4 by eligible entities, including all programs of the Ad-  
5 ministration for Children and Families or successor  
6 administrative units in which the office is located.

7 **“SEC. 687. LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.**

8 “(a) CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES.—

9 “(1) LIMITATIONS.—Except as provided in  
10 paragraph (2) and in section 690, grants or sub-  
11 grants made under this subtitle may not be used by  
12 the State, or by any other person with which the  
13 State makes arrangements to carry out a purpose  
14 described in section 672, for the purchase or im-  
15 provement of land, or the purchase, construction or  
16 permanent improvement of any building or other fa-  
17 cility.

18 “(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the  
19 limitation contained in paragraph (1) upon a State  
20 request for such a waiver if the Secretary finds  
21 that—

22 “(A) the request describes extraordinary  
23 circumstances to justify the purchase or im-  
24 provement of land, or the purchase, construc-

1           tion, or permanent improvement of any building  
2           or other facilities; and

3           “(B) permitting the waiver will contribute  
4           to the ability of the State and eligible entities  
5           to carry out a purpose described in section 672  
6           at substantially reduced costs.

7           “(b) POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.—

8           “(1) TREATMENT AS A STATE OR LOCAL AGEN-  
9           CY.—For purposes of chapter 15 of title 5, United  
10          States Code, any entity that assumes responsibility  
11          for planning, developing, and coordinating activities  
12          under this subtitle and receives assistance under this  
13          subtitle shall be deemed to be a State or local agen-  
14          cy. For purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2) of sec-  
15          tion 1502(a) of such title, any entity receiving as-  
16          sistance under this subtitle shall be deemed to be a  
17          State or local agency.

18          “(2) PROHIBITIONS.—A program, project, or  
19          service assisted under this subtitle, and any indi-  
20          vidual employed by, or assigned to or in, such a pro-  
21          gram, project, or service (during the hours in which  
22          the individual is working on behalf of the program,  
23          project, or service) shall not engage in—

24                  “(A) any partisan or nonpartisan political  
25                  activity or any political activity associated with

1 a candidate, or contending faction or group, in  
2 an election for public or party office; or

3 “(B) any activity to provide voters or pro-  
4 spective voters with transportation to the polls  
5 or similar assistance in connection with any  
6 such election.

7 “(3) REGISTRATION.—None of the funds appro-  
8 priated to carry out this subtitle may be used to con-  
9 duct voter registration activities. Nothing in this  
10 subtitle prohibits entities receiving assistance under  
11 this subtitle from making its facilities available dur-  
12 ing hours of operation for use by nonpartisan orga-  
13 nizations to increase the number of eligible citizens  
14 who register to vote in elections for Federal office.

15 “(c) NONDISCRIMINATION.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—No person shall, on the  
17 basis of race, color, national origin, or sex, be ex-  
18 cluded from participation in, be denied the benefits  
19 of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any pro-  
20 gram, project, or service funded in whole or in part  
21 with funds made available under this subtitle. Any  
22 prohibition against discrimination on the basis of  
23 age under the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42  
24 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.) or with respect to an otherwise  
25 qualified individual with a disability as provided in

1 section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29  
2 U.S.C. 794), or title II of the Americans with Dis-  
3 abilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12131 et seq.), shall  
4 also apply to any such program, project, or service.

5 “(2) ACTION OF SECRETARY.—Whenever the  
6 Secretary determines that a State that has received  
7 a payment under this subtitle has failed to comply  
8 with paragraph (1) or an applicable regulation, the  
9 Secretary shall notify the chief executive officer of  
10 the State and shall request that the officer secure  
11 compliance. If within a reasonable period of time,  
12 not to exceed 60 days, the chief executive officer  
13 fails or refuses to secure compliance, the Secretary  
14 is authorized to—

15 “(A) refer the matter to the Attorney Gen-  
16 eral with a recommendation that an appropriate  
17 civil action be instituted;

18 “(B) exercise the powers and functions  
19 provided by title VI of the Civil Rights Act of  
20 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), the Age Dis-  
21 crimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et  
22 seq.), section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of  
23 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), or title II of the Ameri-  
24 cans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
25 12131 et seq.), as may be applicable; or

1           “(C) take such other action as may be pro-  
2           vided by law.

3           “(3) ACTION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL.—When a  
4           matter is referred to the Attorney General pursuant  
5           to paragraph (2), or whenever the Attorney General  
6           has reason to believe that the State is engaged in a  
7           pattern or practice of discrimination in violation of  
8           the provisions of this subsection, the Attorney Gen-  
9           eral may bring a civil action in any appropriate  
10          United States district court for such relief as may  
11          be appropriate, including injunctive relief.

12 **“SEC. 688. CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES AND REFERRALS.**

13          “During each fiscal year for which an eligible entity  
14          receives a subgrant under section 679(a), such entity  
15          shall—

16                 “(1) inform custodial parents in single-parent  
17                 families that participate in programs, projects, or  
18                 services carried out or provided under this subtitle  
19                 about the availability of child support services; and

20                 “(2) refer eligible parents to the child support  
21                 offices of State and local governments.

22 **“SEC. 689. REGULATIONS.**

23          “(a) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promulgate  
24          regulations implementing this subtitle, by administrative

1 hearing open to the public, including regulations regard-  
2 ing—

3 “(1) State plans and community action plans,  
4 including the form and information required for  
5 State plans submitted to the Secretary and commu-  
6 nity action plans submitted to States;

7 “(2) State monitoring of eligible entities; and

8 “(3) reports to the Secretary described in sec-  
9 tion 686.

10 “(b) GUIDANCE.—

11 “(1) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT.—The Sec-  
12 retary shall issue guidance regarding State and local  
13 performance measurement systems. Guidance may  
14 include one or more model performance measure-  
15 ment systems, facilitated by the Secretary, that  
16 States and eligible entities may use to measure their  
17 performance in carrying out the requirements of this  
18 subtitle and in achieving the goals of their commu-  
19 nity action plans.

20 “(2) COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF POVERTY  
21 CONDITIONS.—The Secretary shall provide guidance  
22 (including models) for comprehensive community  
23 needs assessments described in section 678(e)(1).  
24 The guidance shall include methods for preparing an  
25 analysis of all poverty conditions affecting a commu-



1 nity and of local and regional assets for alleviating  
2 such conditions.

3 **“SEC. 690. DISCRETIONARY COMMUNITY PROGRAMS.**

4 “(a) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, ARRANGEMENTS, LOANS,  
5 AND GUARANTEES.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, from  
7 funds appropriated under section 691(b), make  
8 grants, loans, or guarantees to States and public  
9 agencies and private, nonprofit organizations, or  
10 enter into contracts or jointly financed cooperative  
11 arrangements with States and public agencies and  
12 private, nonprofit organizations (and for-profit orga-  
13 nizations, to the extent specified in paragraph  
14 (2)(E)) for each of the objectives described in para-  
15 graphs (2) through (4).

16 “(2) COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.—

17 “(A) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVI-  
18 TIES.—The Secretary shall make grants de-  
19 scribed in paragraph (1) on a competitive basis  
20 to private, nonprofit organizations that are  
21 community development corporations to provide  
22 technical and financial assistance for economic  
23 development activities designed to address the  
24 economic needs of low-income individuals and

1 families by creating employment and business  
2 development opportunities.

3 “(B) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary  
4 shall exercise the authority provided under sub-  
5 paragraph (A) after consultation with other rel-  
6 evant Federal officials.

7 “(C) GOVERNING BOARDS.—For a commu-  
8 nity development corporation to receive funds to  
9 carry out this paragraph, the corporation shall  
10 be governed by a board that shall—

11 “(i) consist of residents of the com-  
12 munity and business and civic leaders; and

13 “(ii) have as a principal purpose plan-  
14 ning, developing, or managing low-income  
15 housing or community development  
16 projects.

17 “(D) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In  
18 making grants to carry out this paragraph, the  
19 Secretary shall take into consideration the geo-  
20 graphic distribution of funding among States  
21 and the relative proportion of funding among  
22 rural and urban areas.

23 “(E) RESERVATION.—Of the amounts  
24 made available to carry out this paragraph, the  
25 Secretary may reserve not more than 1 percent

1 for each fiscal year to make grants to private,  
2 nonprofit organizations or to enter into con-  
3 tracts with private, nonprofit, or for-profit orga-  
4 nizations to provide technical assistance to aid  
5 community development corporations in devel-  
6 oping or implementing activities funded to carry  
7 out this paragraph and to evaluate activities  
8 funded to carry out this paragraph.

9 “(3) RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AC-  
10 TIVITIES.—The Secretary shall provide the assist-  
11 ance described in paragraph (1) for rural community  
12 development activities, which shall include pro-  
13 viding—

14 “(A) grants to private, nonprofit corpora-  
15 tions to enable the corporations to provide as-  
16 sistance concerning home repair to rural low-in-  
17 come families and concerning planning and de-  
18 veloping low-income rural rental housing units;  
19 and

20 “(B) grants to multistate, regional, pri-  
21 vate, nonprofit organizations to enable the orga-  
22 nizations to provide training and technical as-  
23 sistance to small, rural communities concerning  
24 meeting their community facility needs.

25 “(4) BROADBAND NAVIGATOR PROJECTS.—

1           “(A) NAVIGATOR PROJECT AUTHORITY.—  
2           The Secretary is authorized to provide assist-  
3           ance described in paragraph (1) for broadband  
4           navigator projects consistent with the purposes  
5           of this Act to address the educational and eco-  
6           nomic needs of low-income individuals and com-  
7           munities.

8           “(B) NAVIGATOR GRANTS.—The Secretary  
9           shall make grants consistent with subparagraph  
10          (A) to community action agencies (as defined in  
11          section 673(2)) to enable them to provide as-  
12          sistance through trained navigators to low-in-  
13          come individuals and communities to help facili-  
14          tate access to affordable high-speed broadband  
15          service, internet-enabled devices, digital literacy  
16          training, technical support and other services to  
17          meet the broadband and digital needs of such  
18          individuals and communities.

19          “(C) PRIORITY.—Priority in the awarding  
20          of such grants under paragraph (4) shall be  
21          given to community action agencies serving un-  
22          derserved areas with the most significant unmet  
23          broadband and digital needs.

24          “(b) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall require all  
25          activities receiving assistance under this section to be eval-

1 uated for their effectiveness. Funding for such evaluations  
2 shall be provided as a stated percentage of the assistance  
3 or through a separate grant awarded by the Secretary spe-  
4 cifically for the purpose of evaluation of a particular activ-  
5 ity or group of activities.

6 “(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall compile  
7 an annual report containing a summary of the evaluations  
8 required under subsection (b) and a listing of all activities  
9 assisted under this section. The Secretary shall annually  
10 submit the report to the chairperson of the Committee on  
11 Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and  
12 the chairperson of the Committee on Health, Education,  
13 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

14 **“SEC. 691. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-  
16 propriated to carry out this subtitle (not including section  
17 690)—

18 “(1) \$1,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
19 2022 through 2026; and

20 “(2) such sums as may be necessary for fiscal  
21 years 2027 through 2031.

22 “(b) DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS.—There are au-  
23 thorized to be appropriated to carry out section 690 such  
24 sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2022 through  
25 2031.

1       “(c) RESERVATIONS BY THE SECRETARY.—Of the  
2 amounts appropriated under subsection (a) for each fiscal  
3 year, the Secretary shall reserve—

4           “(1)  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent for carrying out section  
5 675 (relating to grants to territories);

6           “(2) 2 percent for activities authorized in sec-  
7 tion 682(a)(1), of which—

8               “(A) not less than 50 percent of the  
9 amount reserved by the Secretary under this  
10 paragraph shall be awarded through grants,  
11 contracts, or cooperative agreements to entities,  
12 organizations, and associations described in sec-  
13 tion 682(b), for the purpose of carrying out ac-  
14 tivities described in section 682(a)(1)(B); and

15               “(B) the remainder of the amount reserved  
16 by the Secretary under this paragraph may be  
17 awarded through grants, contracts, or coopera-  
18 tive agreements to entities, organizations, or co-  
19 operative agreements to entities, organizations,  
20 or associations described in section 682(b) or  
21 other entities with demonstrated expertise in  
22 providing training for individuals and organiza-  
23 tions on methods of effectively addressing the  
24 needs of low-income families and communities;  
25 and

1           “(3) 1 percent for the Community Action Inno-  
2           vations Program authorized in section 682(a)(2).

3 **“SEC. 692. REFERENCES.**

4           “Any reference in any provision of law to the poverty  
5 line set forth in section 624 or 625 of the Economic Op-  
6 portunity Act of 1964 shall be construed to be a reference  
7 to the poverty line defined in section 673 of this subtitle.  
8 Any reference in any provision of law to the poverty line  
9 defined in section 673(2) of the Community Services  
10 Block Grant Act as in effect immediately before the effec-  
11 tive date of this subtitle shall be construed to be a ref-  
12 erence to the poverty line defined in section 673(9) of this  
13 subtitle. Except as otherwise provided, any reference in  
14 any provision of law to any community action agency des-  
15 ignated under title II of the Economic Opportunity Act  
16 of 1964 shall be construed to be a reference to an entity  
17 eligible to receive funds under the community services  
18 block grant program.”.

19 **SEC. 3. TRANSITION PERIOD.**

20           (a) TRANSITION PERIOD.—The Secretary of Health  
21 and Human Services shall expeditiously announce a tran-  
22 sition period for the implementation of any changes in reg-  
23 ulations, procedures, and reporting requirements of the  
24 Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9901 et  
25 seq.) as amended by this Act, from the regulations, proce-

1 dures, and reporting requirements of the Community  
2 Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.) as in  
3 effect immediately before the date of enactment of this  
4 Act.

5 (b) UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS,  
6 COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS; FED-  
7 ERAL TRAINING.—The transition period shall include—

8 (1) a schedule for implementation of require-  
9 ments relating to adoption of the uniform adminis-  
10 trative requirements, cost principles, and audit re-  
11 quirements described in section 674(c) of the Com-  
12 munity Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9901)  
13 as amended by this Act; and

14 (2) the availability of Federal training for  
15 States and eligible entities regarding compliance  
16 with new requirements under the Community Serv-  
17 ices Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.) as  
18 amended by this Act.

19 (c) TIMING.—The transition period described in this  
20 section—

21 (1) may not extend later than the date that is  
22 3 months prior to the start of the second fiscal year  
23 after the date of enactment of the Community Serv-  
24 ices Block Grant Modernization Act of 2021; and



1           (2) may require that certain regulations, proce-  
2           dures, and reporting requirements be adopted before  
3           other regulations, procedures, or reporting require-  
4           ments.

5 **SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

6           Section 306(a)(6)(C)(ii) of the Older Americans Act  
7           of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)(6)(C)(ii)) is amended by in-  
8           serting “or subsequent years” after “fiscal year 1982”  
9           and by striking “section 676B of the Community Services  
10          Block Grant Act” and inserting “section 680(c) of the  
11          Community Services Block Grant Act”.

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