

In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

June 13, 2018.

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 1091) entitled “An Act to establish a Federal Task Force to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.”, do pass with the following

AMENDMENTS:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

1 ***SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.***

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Grand-*
3 *parents Raising Grandchildren Act”.*

4 ***SEC. 2. FINDINGS.***

5 *Congress finds the following:*

6 *(1) More than 2,500,000 grandparents in the*
7 *United States are the primary caretaker of their*
8 *grandchildren, and experts report that such numbers*
9 *are increasing as the opioid epidemic expands.*

10 *(2) Between 2009 and 2016, the incidence of pa-*
11 *rental alcohol or other drug use as a contributing fac-*
12 *tor for children’s out-of-home placement rose from*
13 *25.4 to 37.4 percent.*

14 *(3) When children cannot remain safely with*
15 *their parents, placement with relatives is preferred*

1 *over placement in foster care with nonrelatives be-*
 2 *cause placement with relatives provides stability for*
 3 *children and helps them maintain family connections.*

4 *(4) The number of foster children placed with a*
 5 *grandparent or other relative increased from 24 per-*
 6 *cent in 2006 to 32 percent in 2016, according to data*
 7 *from the Department of Health and Human Services.*

8 *(5) Grandparents' lives are enhanced by caring*
 9 *for their grandchildren; the overwhelming majority of*
 10 *grandparents report experiencing significant benefits*
 11 *in serving as their grandchildren's primary care-*
 12 *givers.*

13 *(6) Providing full-time care to their grand-*
 14 *children may decrease grandparents' ability to ad-*
 15 *dress their own physical and mental health needs and*
 16 *personal well-being.*

17 *(7) Grandparents would benefit from better co-*
 18 *ordination and dissemination of information and re-*
 19 *sources available to support them in their caregiving*
 20 *responsibilities.*

21 **SEC. 3. ADVISORY COUNCIL TO SUPPORT GRANDPARENTS**
 22 **RAISING GRANDCHILDREN.**

23 *(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an Advi-*
 24 *sory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grand-*
 25 *children.*

1 (b) *MEMBERSHIP.*—

2 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Advisory Council shall be*
 3 *composed of the following members, or their designee:*

4 (A) *The Secretary of Health and Human*
 5 *Services.*

6 (B) *The Secretary of Education.*

7 (C) *The Administrator of the Administra-*
 8 *tion for Community Living.*

9 (D) *The Director of the Centers for Disease*
 10 *Control and Prevention.*

11 (E) *The Assistant Secretary for Mental*
 12 *Health and Substance Use.*

13 (F) *The Assistant Secretary for the Admin-*
 14 *istration for Children and Families.*

15 (G) *A grandparent raising a grandchild.*

16 (H) *An older relative caregiver of children.*

17 (I) *As appropriate, the head of other Fed-*
 18 *eral departments, or agencies, identified by the*
 19 *Secretary of Health and Human Services as hav-*
 20 *ing responsibilities, or administering programs,*
 21 *relating to current issues affecting grandparents*
 22 *or other older relatives raising children.*

23 (2) *LEAD AGENCY.*—*The Department of Health*
 24 *and Human Services shall be the lead agency for the*
 25 *Advisory Council.*

1 (c) *DUTIES.*—

2 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—

3 (A) *INFORMATION.*—*The Advisory Council*
 4 *shall identify, promote, coordinate, and dissemi-*
 5 *nate to the public information, resources, and the*
 6 *best practices available to help grandparents and*
 7 *other older relatives—*

8 (i) *meet the health, educational, nutri-*
 9 *tional, and other needs of the children in*
 10 *their care; and*

11 (ii) *maintain their own physical and*
 12 *mental health and emotional well-being.*

13 (B) *OPIOIDS.*—*In carrying out the duties*
 14 *described in subparagraph (A), the Advisory*
 15 *Council shall consider the needs of those affected*
 16 *by the opioid crisis.*

17 (C) *NATIVE AMERICANS.*—*In carrying out*
 18 *the duties described in subparagraph (A), the*
 19 *Advisory Council shall consider the needs of*
 20 *members of Native American tribes.*

21 (2) *REPORT.*—

22 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 180 days*
 23 *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Advi-*
 24 *sory Council shall submit a report to—*

25 (i) *the appropriate committees;*

1 (ii) the State agencies that are respon-
2 sible for carrying out family caregiver pro-
3 grams; and

4 (iii) the public online in an accessible
5 format.

6 (B) *REPORT FORMAT.*—The report shall in-
7 clude—

8 (i) best practices, resources, and other
9 useful information for grandparents and
10 other older relatives raising children identi-
11 fied under paragraph (1)(A) including, if
12 applicable, any information related to the
13 needs of children who have been impacted
14 by the opioid epidemic;

15 (ii) an identification of any gaps in
16 items under clause (i); and

17 (iii) where applicable, identification of
18 any additional Federal legislative authority
19 necessary to implement the activities de-
20 scribed in clause (i) and (ii).

21 (3) *FOLLOW-UP REPORT.*—Not later than 2 years
22 after the date on which the report required under
23 paragraph (2)(A) is submitted, the Advisory Council
24 shall submit a follow-up report that includes the in-
25 formation identified in paragraph (2)(B) to—

1 (A) *the appropriate committees;*

2 (B) *the State agencies that are responsible*
 3 *for carrying out family caregiver programs; and*

4 (C) *the public online in an accessible for-*
 5 *mat.*

6 (4) *PUBLIC INPUT.—*

7 (A) *IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Council*
 8 *shall establish a process for public input to in-*
 9 *form the development of, and provide updates to,*
 10 *the best practices, resources, and other informa-*
 11 *tion described in paragraph (1) that shall in-*
 12 *clude—*

13 (i) *outreach to States, local entities,*
 14 *and organizations that provide information*
 15 *to, or support for, grandparents or other*
 16 *older relatives raising children; and*

17 (ii) *outreach to grandparents and other*
 18 *older relatives with experience raising chil-*
 19 *dren.*

20 (B) *NATURE OF OUTREACH.—Such outreach*
 21 *shall ask individuals to provide input on—*

22 (i) *information, resources, and best*
 23 *practices available, including identification*
 24 *of any gaps and unmet needs; and*

1 (ii) recommendations that would help
 2 grandparents and other older relatives bet-
 3 ter meet the health, educational, nutritional,
 4 and other needs of the children in their
 5 care, as well as maintain their own phys-
 6 ical and mental health and emotional well-
 7 being.

8 (d) *FACA*.—The Advisory Council shall be exempt
 9 from the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee
 10 Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

11 (e) *FUNDING*.—No additional funds are authorized to
 12 be appropriated to carry out this Act.

13 (f) *SUNSET*.—The Advisory Council shall terminate on
 14 the date that is 3 years after the date of enactment of this
 15 Act.

16 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

17 *In this Act:*

18 (1) *ADVISORY COUNCIL*.—In this Act, the term
 19 “Advisory Council” means the Advisory Council to
 20 Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren that is
 21 established under section 3.

22 (2) *APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES*.—In this Act, the
 23 term “appropriate committees” means the following:

24 (A) The Special Committee on Aging of the
 25 Senate.

1 *(B) The Committee on Health, Education,*
2 *Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.*

3 *(C) The Committee on Education and the*
4 *Workforce of the House of Representatives.*

5 *(D) The Committee on Energy and Com-*
6 *merce of the House of Representatives.*

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to establish
a Federal Advisory Council to Support Grandparents
Raising Grandchildren.”.

Attest:

Clerk.

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 1091

AMENDMENTS