

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—113th Cong., 2d Sess.**

**H. R. 4366**

To strengthen the Federal education research system to make research and evaluations more timely and relevant to State and local needs in order to increase student achievement.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and  
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended  
to be proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr.  
ALEXANDER)

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening Edu-  
5 cation through Research Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

7 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. Nonduplication.

**TITLE I—EDUCATION SCIENCES REFORM**

- Sec. 101. References.

## 2

Sec. 102. Definitions.

PART A—THE INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

Sec. 111. Establishment.

Sec. 112. Functions.

Sec. 113. Delegation.

Sec. 114. Office of the Director.

Sec. 115. Priorities.

Sec. 116. National Board for Education Sciences.

Sec. 117. Commissioners of the National Education Centers.

Sec. 118. Transparency.

Sec. 119. Competitive awards.

PART B—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION RESEARCH

Sec. 131. Establishment.

Sec. 132. Duties.

Sec. 133. Standards for conduct and evaluation of research.

PART C—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS

Sec. 151. Establishment.

Sec. 152. Duties.

Sec. 153. Performance of duties.

Sec. 154. Reports.

Sec. 155. Dissemination.

Sec. 156. Cooperative education statistics systems.

PART D—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION EVALUATION AND REGIONAL  
ASSISTANCE

Sec. 171. Establishment.

Sec. 172. Commissioner for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance.

Sec. 173. Evaluations.

Sec. 174. Regional educational laboratories for research, development, dissemination, and evaluation.

PART E—NATIONAL CENTER FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION RESEARCH

Sec. 175. Establishment.

Sec. 176. Commissioner for Special Education Research.

Sec. 177. Duties.

PART F—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 182. Prohibitions.

Sec. 183. Confidentiality.

Sec. 184. Availability of data.

Sec. 185. Performance management.

Sec. 186. Authority to publish.

Sec. 187. Repeals.

Sec. 188. Fellowships.

Sec. 189. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—EDUCATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Sec. 201. References.

## 3

- Sec. 202. Definitions.
- Sec. 203. Comprehensive centers.
- Sec. 204. Evaluations.
- Sec. 205. Existing technical assistance providers.
- Sec. 206. Regional advisory committees.
- Sec. 207. Priorities.
- Sec. 208. Grant program for statewide, longitudinal data systems.
- Sec. 209. Authorization of appropriations.

## TITLE III—NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

- Sec. 301. References.
- Sec. 302. National assessment governing board.
- Sec. 303. National assessment of educational progress.
- Sec. 304. Definitions.
- Sec. 305. Authorization of appropriations.

## TITLE IV—EVALUATION PLAN

- Sec. 401. Research and evaluation.

1 **SEC. 3. NONDUPLICATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Act of November 5, 2002  
3 (Public Law 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by in-  
4 serting after section 1 the following:

5 **“SEC. 2. NONDUPLICATION.**

6 “In collecting information and data under this Act,  
7 including requiring the reporting of information and data,  
8 the Secretary of Education shall, to the extent appro-  
9 priate, not duplicate other requirements and shall use in-  
10 formation and data that are available from existing Fed-  
11 eral, State, and local sources, in order to reduce burden  
12 and cost to the Department of Education, States, local  
13 educational agencies (as defined in section 9101 of the El-  
14 ementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
15 U.S.C. 7801)), and other entities.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public Law 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1 the following:

“Sec. 2. Nonduplication.”.

## **TITLE I—EDUCATION SCIENCES REFORM**

### **SEC. 101. REFERENCES.**

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9501 et seq.).

### **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.**

Section 102 (20 U.S.C. 9501) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (13) and (18);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (12), (16), (17), and (19) through (23), as paragraphs (3) through (13), (17), (19), and (21) through (25), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) ADULT EDUCATION; ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY ACTIVITIES.—The terms ‘adult education’ and ‘adult education and literacy activities’

1 have the meanings given the terms in section 203 of  
2 the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20  
3 U.S.C. 9202).”;

4 (4) in paragraph (6), as redesignated by para-  
5 graph (2), by striking “Affairs” and inserting “Edu-  
6 cation”;

7 (5) in paragraph (11), as redesignated by para-  
8 graph (2)—

9 (A) by inserting “or other information, in  
10 a timely manner and” after “evaluations,”; and

11 (B) by inserting “school leaders,” after  
12 “teachers,”;

13 (6) in paragraph (13), as redesignated by para-  
14 graph (2), by inserting “, school leaders,” after  
15 “teachers”;

16 (7) by inserting after paragraph (15) the fol-  
17 lowing:

18 “(16) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The  
19 term ‘minority-serving institution’ means an institu-  
20 tion of higher education described in section 371(a)  
21 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
22 1067q(a)).”;

23 (8) by inserting after paragraph (17), as redес-  
24 ignated by paragraph (2), the following:

1 “(18) PRINCIPLES OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.—

2     The term ‘principles of scientific research’ means  
3     principles of research that—

4 “(A) apply rigorous, systematic, and objec-  
5 tive methodology to obtain reliable and valid  
6 knowledge relevant to education activities and  
7 programs;

8 “(B) present findings and make claims  
9 that are appropriate to, and supported by, the  
10 methods that have been employed; and

11 “(C) include, appropriate to the research  
12 being conducted—

13 “(i) use of systematic, empirical meth-  
14 ods that draw on observation or experi-  
15 ment;

16 “(ii) use of data analyses that are  
17 adequate to support the general findings;

“(iii) reliance on measurements or observational methods that provide reliable and generalizable findings;

“(iv) strong claims of causal relationships, only with research designs that eliminate plausible competing explanations for observed results, such as, but not limited to, random-assignment experiments;

1 “(v) presentation of studies and meth-  
2 ods in sufficient detail and clarity to allow  
3 for replication or, at a minimum, to offer  
4 the opportunity to build systematically on  
5 the findings of the research;

6 “(vi) acceptance by a peer-reviewed  
7 journal or critique by a panel of inde-  
8 pendent experts through a comparably rig-  
9 orous, objective, and scientific review; and

10 “(vii) consistency of findings across  
11 multiple studies or sites to support the  
12 generality of results and conclusions.”;

13 (9) by inserting after paragraph (19) the fol-  
14 lowing:

15 “(20) SCHOOL LEADER.—The term ‘school  
16 leader’ means a principal, assistant principal, or  
17 other individual who is—

18 “(A) an employee or officer of—

19 “(i) an elementary school or sec-  
20 ondary school;

21 “(ii) a local educational agency serv-  
22 ing an elementary school or secondary  
23 school; or

24 “(iii) another entity operating the ele-  
25 mentary school or secondary school; and

1 “(B) responsible for the daily instructional  
2 leadership and managerial operations of the ele-  
3 mentary school or secondary school.”; and  
4 (10) in paragraph (22), as redesignated by  
5 paragraph (2), by striking “scientifically based re-  
6 search standards” and inserting “the principles of  
7 scientific research”.

8 **PART A—THE INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION**  
9 **SCIENCES**

10 **SEC. 111. ESTABLISHMENT.**

11 Section 111(b) (20 U.S.C. 9511(b)) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding  
13 subparagraph (A), by inserting “including adult edu-  
14 cation,” after “postsecondary study,”; and

15 (2) in paragraph (2)—

16 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
17 (A)—

18 (i) by striking “and wide dissemina-  
19 tion activities” and inserting “and, con-  
20 sistent with section 114(j), wide dissemina-  
21 tion and utilization activities”; and

22 (ii) by striking “(including in tech-  
23 nology areas)”; and

24 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
25 “disability,” after “gender,”.



1   **SEC. 112. FUNCTIONS.**

2       Section 112 (20 U.S.C. 9512) is amended—

3           (1) in paragraph (1)—

4               (A) by inserting “(including evaluations of  
5           impact and implementation)” after “education  
6           evaluation”; and

7               (B) by inserting “and utilization” before  
8           the semicolon; and

9           (2) in paragraph (2)—

10               (A) by inserting “, consistent with section  
11           114(j),” after “disseminate”; and

12               (B) by inserting “and scientifically valid  
13           education evaluations carried out under this  
14           title” before the semicolon.

15   **SEC. 113. DELEGATION.**

16       Section 113 (20 U.S.C. 9513) is amended—

17           (1) in subsection (a)—

18               (A) by striking paragraph (1);

19               (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2)  
20           through (5) as paragraphs (1) through (4), re-  
21           spectively; and

22               (C) in paragraph (2), as redesignated by  
23           subparagraph (B), by striking “of the National  
24           Assessment of Educational Progress Authoriza-  
25           tion Act” and inserting “of such Act”;

1           (2) in subsection (b), by striking “Secretary  
2           may assign the Institute responsibility for admin-  
3           istering” and inserting “Director may accept re-  
4           quests from the Secretary for the Institute to admin-  
5           ister”; and

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

7           “(c) CONTRACT ACQUISITION.—With respect to any  
8           contract entered into under this title, the Director shall  
9           be consulted—

10           “(1) during the procurement process; and

11           “(2) in the management of such contract’s per-  
12           formance, which shall be consistent with the require-  
13           ments of the performance management system de-  
14           scribed in section 185.”.

15   **SEC. 114. OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR.**

16           Section 114 (20 U.S.C. 9514) is amended—

17           (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Except as  
18           provided in subsection (b)(2), the” and inserting  
19           “The”;

20           (2) in subsection (b)—

21           (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting before  
22           the period the following: “, except that if a suc-  
23           cessor to the Director has not been appointed  
24           as of the date of expiration of the Director’s  
25           term, the Director may serve for an additional

1 1-year period, beginning on the day after the  
2 date of expiration of the Director's term, or  
3 until a successor has been appointed under sub-  
4 section (a), whichever occurs first";

5 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-  
6 ing the following:

7 "(2) REAPPOINTMENT.—A Director may be re-  
8 appointed under subsection (a) for one additional  
9 term."; and

10 (C) in paragraph (3)—

11 (i) in the heading, by striking "SUB-  
12 SEQUENT DIRECTORS" and inserting  
13 "RECOMMENDATIONS"; and

14 (ii) by striking " , other than a Direc-  
15 tor appointed under paragraph (2)";

16 (3) in subsection (f)—

17 (A) in paragraph (3), by inserting before  
18 the period the following: " , and, as appropriate,  
19 with such research and activities carried out by  
20 public and private entities, to avoid duplicative  
21 or overlapping efforts";

22 (B) in paragraph (4), by inserting " , and  
23 the use of evidence" after "statistics activities";

24 (C) in paragraph (5)—

## 12

1 (i) by inserting “and maintain” after  
2 “establish”; and

3 (ii) by inserting “and subsection (h)”  
4 after “section 116(b)(3)”;

5 (D) in paragraph (7), by inserting “dis-  
6 ability,” after “gender,”;

7 (E) in paragraph (8), by striking “histori-  
8 cally Black colleges or universities” and insert-  
9 ing “minority-serving institutions”;

10 (F) by striking paragraph (9) and insert-  
11 ing the following:

12 “(9) To coordinate with the Secretary to ensure  
13 that the results of the Institute’s work are coordi-  
14 nated with, and utilized by, the Department’s tech-  
15 nical assistance providers and dissemination net-  
16 works.”;

17 (G) by striking paragraphs (10) and (11);

18 (H) by redesignating paragraph (12) as  
19 paragraph (10);

20 (4) by redesignating subsection (h) as sub-  
21 section (i);

22 (5) by inserting after subsection (g), the fol-  
23 lowing:

24 “(h) PEER-REVIEW SYSTEM.—The Director shall es-  
25 tablish and maintain a peer-review system involving high-

1 ly-qualified individuals, including practitioners, as appro-  
2 priate, with an in-depth knowledge of the subject to be  
3 investigated, including, in the case of special education re-  
4 search, an understanding of special education, for—

5 “(1) reviewing and evaluating each application  
6 for a grant or cooperative agreement under this title  
7 that exceeds \$100,000; and

8 “(2) evaluating and assessing all reports and  
9 other products that exceed \$100,000 to be published  
10 and publicly released by the Institute.”;

11 (6) in subsection (i), as redesignated by para-  
12 graph (5)—

13 (A) by striking “the products and”; and

14 (B) by striking “certify that evidence-  
15 based claims about those products and” and in-  
16 serting “determine whether evidence-based  
17 claims in those”; and

18 (7) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(j) RELEVANCE, DISSEMINATION, AND UTILIZA-  
20 TION.—To ensure all activities authorized under this title  
21 are rigorous, relevant, and useful for researchers, policy-  
22 makers, practitioners, and the public, the Director shall—

23 “(1) ensure such activities address significant  
24 challenges faced by practitioners, and increase  
25 knowledge in the field of education;

1 “(2) ensure that the information, products, and  
2 publications of the Institute are—

3 “(A) prepared and widely disseminated—

4 “(i) in a timely fashion; and

5 “(ii) in forms that are understand-  
6 able, easily accessible, and usable, or  
7 adaptable for use in, the improvement of  
8 educational practice; and

9 “(B) widely disseminated through elec-  
10 tronic transfer, and other means, such as post-  
11 ing to the Institute’s website or other relevant  
12 place;

13 “(3) promote the utilization of the information,  
14 products, and publications of the Institute, including  
15 through the use of dissemination networks and tech-  
16 nical assistance providers, within the Institute and  
17 the Department; and

18 “(4) monitor and manage the performance of  
19 all activities authorized under this title in accord-  
20 ance with section 185.”.

21 **SEC. 115. PRIORITIES.**

22 Section 115 (20 U.S.C. 9515) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (a)—

24 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph

25 (1)—

1 (i) by striking “(taking into consider-  
2 ation long-term research and development  
3 on core issues conducted through the na-  
4 tional research and development centers)”  
5 and inserting “at least once every 6  
6 years”; and

7 (ii) by striking “such as” and insert-  
8 ing “including”;

9 (B) in paragraph (1)—

10 (i) by inserting “ensuring that all stu-  
11 dents have the ability to obtain a high-  
12 quality education, particularly” before  
13 “closing”;

14 (ii) by striking “low-performing chil-  
15 dren” and inserting “low-performing stu-  
16 dents”;

17 (iii) by striking “especially achieve-  
18 ment gaps between”;

19 (iv) by striking “nonminority chil-  
20 dren” and inserting “nonminority stu-  
21 dents, students with disabilities and stu-  
22 dents without disabilities,”;

23 (v) by striking “and between dis-  
24 advantaged children and such children’s”

1 and inserting “and disadvantaged students  
2 and such students’”;

3 (vi) by striking “and” after the semi-  
4 colon;

5 (C) by striking paragraph (2); and

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

7 “(2) improving access to and the quality of  
8 early childhood education;

9 “(3) improving education in elementary schools  
10 and secondary schools, particularly among low-per-  
11 forming students and schools; and

12 “(4) improving access to, opportunities for, and  
13 completion of postsecondary education and adult  
14 education.”; and

15 (2) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “by means  
16 of the Internet” and inserting “by electronic means  
17 such as posting in an easily accessible manner on  
18 the Institute’s website”.

19 **SEC. 116. NATIONAL BOARD FOR EDUCATION SCIENCES.**

20 Section 116 (20 U.S.C. 9516) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (b)—

22 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “to guide  
23 the work of the Institute” and inserting “, and  
24 to advise, and provide input to, the Director on



1 the activities of the Institute on an ongoing  
2 basis”;

3 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “under  
4 section 114(h)” after “procedures”;

5 (C) in paragraph (8), by inserting “dis-  
6 ability,” after “gender,”

7 (D) in paragraph (9)—

8 (i) by striking “To solicit” and insert-  
9 ing “To ensure all activities of the Insti-  
10 tute are relevant to education policy and  
11 practice by soliciting, on an ongoing  
12 basis,”; and

13 (ii) by striking “consistent with” and  
14 inserting “consistent with section 114(j)  
15 and”;

16 (E) in paragraph (11)—

17 (i) by inserting “the Institute’s” after  
18 “enhance”; and

19 (ii) by striking “among other Federal  
20 and State research agencies” and inserting  
21 “with public and private entities to im-  
22 prove the work of the Institute”; and

23 (F) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(13) To conduct the evaluations required  
25 under subsection (d).”;

1 (2) in subsection (c)—

2 (A) in paragraph (2)—

3 (i) by inserting “Board,” before “Na-  
4 tional Academy”;

5 (ii) by striking “and the National  
6 Science Advisor” and inserting “the Na-  
7 tional Science Advisor, and other entities  
8 and organizations that have knowledge of  
9 individuals who are highly-qualified to ap-  
10 praise education research, statistics, eval-  
11 uations, or development”;

12 (B) in paragraph (4)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

14 (I) in clause (i), by striking “,  
15 which may include those researchers  
16 recommended by the National Acad-  
17 emy of Sciences”;

18 (II) by redesignating clause (ii)  
19 as clause (iii);

20 (III) by inserting after clause (i),  
21 the following:

22 “(ii) Not fewer than 2 practitioners  
23 who are knowledgeable about the education  
24 needs of the United States, who may in-  
25 clude school-based professional educators,

1 teachers, school leaders, local educational  
2 agency superintendents, and members of  
3 local boards of education or Bureau-funded  
4 school boards.”; and

5 (IV) in clause (iii), as redesign-  
6 nated by subclause (II)—

7 (aa) by striking “school-  
8 based professional educators,”;

9 (bb) by inserting “State  
10 leaders in adult education,” after  
11 “executives,”;

12 (cc) by striking “local edu-  
13 cational agency superintend-  
14 ents,”;

15 (dd) by striking “prin-  
16 cipals,”;

17 (ee) by striking “or local”;  
18 and

19 (ff) by striking “or Bureau-  
20 funded school boards”; and

21 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

22 (I) in the matter preceding clause  
23 (i), by inserting “beginning on the  
24 date of appointment of the member,”  
25 after “4 years,”;

## 20

1 (II) by striking clause (i);

2 (III) by redesignating clause (ii)

3 as clause (i);

4 (IV) in clause (i), as redesignated

5 by subclause (III), by striking the pe-

6 riod and inserting “; and”; and

7 (V) by adding at the end the fol-

8 lowing:

9 “(ii) in a case in which a successor to

10 a member has not been appointed as of the

11 date of expiration of the member’s term,

12 the member may serve for an additional 1-

13 year period, beginning on the day after the

14 date of expiration of the member’s term, or

15 until a successor has been appointed under

16 paragraph (1), whichever occurs first.”;

17 (iii) by striking subparagraph (C);

18 and

19 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph

20 (D) as subparagraph (C);

21 (C) in paragraph (8)—

22 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs

23 (A) through (E) as subparagraphs (B)

24 through (F), respectively;

## 21

1 (ii) by inserting before subparagraph  
2 (B), as redesignated by clause (i), the fol-  
3 lowing:

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the exercise of its  
5 duties under subsection (b) and in accordance  
6 with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5  
7 U.S.C. App.), the Board shall be independent of  
8 the Director and the other offices and officers  
9 of the Institute.”;

10 (iii) in subparagraph (B), as redesign-  
11 nated by clause (i), by inserting before the  
12 period at the end the following: “for a  
13 term of not more than 6 years, and who  
14 may be reappointed by the Board for 1 ad-  
15 ditional term of not more than 6 years”;  
16 and

17 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-  
18 lowing:

19 “(G) SUBCOMMITTEES.—The Board may  
20 establish standing or temporary subcommittees  
21 to make recommendations to the Board for car-  
22 rying out activities authorized under this title.”;

23 (3) by striking subsection (d);

24 (4) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-  
25 section (d);

1           (5) in subsection (d), as redesignated by para-  
2 graph (4)—

3           (A) in the subsection heading, by striking  
4 “ANNUAL” and inserting “EVALUATION”;

5           (B) by striking “The Board” and inserting  
6 the following:

7           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board”;

8           (C) by striking “not later than July 1 of  
9 each year, a report” and inserting “and make  
10 widely available to the public (including by elec-  
11 tronic means such as posting in an easily acces-  
12 sible manner on the Institute’s website), a re-  
13 port once every 5 years”; and

14           (D) by adding at the end the following:

15           “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—An evaluation report  
16 described in paragraph (1) shall include—

17           “(A) subject to paragraph (3), an evalua-  
18 tion of the activities authorized for each of the  
19 National Education Centers, which—

20           “(i) uses the performance manage-  
21 ment system described in section 185; and

22           “(ii) is conducted by an independent  
23 entity;

1           “(B) a review of the Institute to ensure its  
2           work, consistent with the requirements of sec-  
3           tion 114(j), is timely, rigorous, and relevant;

4           “(C) any recommendations regarding ac-  
5           tions that may be taken to enhance the ability  
6           of the Institute and the National Education  
7           Centers to carry out their priorities and mis-  
8           sions;

9           “(D) a summary of the major research  
10          findings of the Institute and the activities car-  
11          ried out under section 113(b) during the 3 pre-  
12          ceding fiscal years; and

13          “(E) interim findings made widely avail-  
14          able to the public (including by electronic  
15          means such as posting in an easily accessible  
16          manner on the Institute’s website) 3 years after  
17          the independent entity has begun reviewing the  
18          work of the Institute.

19          “(3) NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION EVAL-  
20          UATION AND REGIONAL ASSISTANCE.—With respect  
21          to the National Center for Education Evaluation  
22          and Regional Assistance, an evaluation report de-  
23          scribed in paragraph (1) shall contain—

24                 “(A) an evaluation described in paragraph  
25                 (2)(A) of the activities authorized for such Cen-

1           ter, except for the regional educational labora-  
2           tories established under section 174; and

3           “(B) a summative or interim evaluation,  
4           whichever is most recent, for each such labora-  
5           tory conducted under section 174(i) on or after  
6           the date of enactment of the Strengthening  
7           Education through Research Act or, in a case  
8           in which such an evaluation is not available for  
9           a laboratory, the most recent evaluation for the  
10          laboratory conducted prior to the date of enact-  
11          ment of the Strengthening Education through  
12          Research Act.”; and

13          (6) by striking subsection (f).

14   **SEC. 117. COMMISSIONERS OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION**  
15           **CENTERS.**

16          Section 117 (20 U.S.C. 9517) is amended—

17           (1) in subsection (a)—

18                (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “Except  
19                as provided in subsection (b), each” and insert-  
20                ing “Each”;

21                (B) in paragraph (2)—

22                   (i) by striking “Except as provided in  
23                   subsection (b), each” and inserting  
24                   “Each”; and



1 (ii) by inserting “, statistics,” after  
2 “research”;

3 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “Except  
4 as provided in subsection (b), each” and insert-  
5 ing “Each”;

6 (2) by striking subsection (b);

7 (3) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as  
8 subsections (b) and (c), respectively; and

9 (4) in subsection (c), as redesignated by para-  
10 graph (3), by striking “, except the Commissioner  
11 for Education Statistics,”.

12 **SEC. 118. TRANSPARENCY.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 119 (20 U.S.C. 9519) is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 **“SEC. 119. TRANSPARENCY.**

16 “Not later than 120 days after awarding a grant,  
17 contract, or cooperative agreement under this title in ex-  
18 cess of \$100,000, the Director shall make publicly avail-  
19 able (including through electronic means such as posting  
20 in an easily accessible manner on the Institute’s website)  
21 a description of the grant, contract, or cooperative agree-  
22 ment, including, at a minimum, the amount, duration, re-  
23 cipient, and the purpose of the grant, contract, or coopera-  
24 tive agreement.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
2 tents in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public  
3 Law 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking  
4 the item relating to section 119 and inserting the fol-  
5 lowing:

“Sec. 119. Transparency.”.

6 **SEC. 119. COMPETITIVE AWARDS.**

7 Section 120 (20 U.S.C. 9520) is amended by striking  
8 “when practicable” and inserting “consistent with section  
9 114(h)”.

10 **PART B—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION**  
11 **RESEARCH**

12 **SEC. 131. ESTABLISHMENT.**

13 Section 131(b) (20 U.S.C. 9531(b)) is amended—

14 (1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the  
15 following:

16 “(1) to sponsor sustained research that will  
17 lead to the accumulation of knowledge and under-  
18 standing of education, consistent with the priorities  
19 described in section 115;”;

20 (2) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph  
21 (3);

22 (3) in paragraph (4), by striking the period and  
23 inserting “; and”; and

24 (4) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(5) consistent with section 114(j), to widely  
2 disseminate and promote utilization of the work of  
3 the Research Center.”.

4 **SEC. 132. DUTIES.**

5 Section 133 (20 U.S.C. 9533) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “peer-re-  
8 view standards and”;

9 (B) by striking paragraph (2);

10 (C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as  
11 paragraph (2);

12 (D) by striking paragraph (4);

13 (E) by redesignating paragraphs (5)  
14 through (9) as paragraphs (3) through (7), re-  
15 spectively;

16 (F) in paragraph (3), as redesignated by  
17 subparagraph (E), by inserting “in the imple-  
18 mentation of programs carried out by the De-  
19 partment and other agencies” before “within  
20 the Federal Government”;

21 (G) in paragraph (5), as redesignated by  
22 subparagraph (E), by striking “disseminate,  
23 through the National Center for Education  
24 Evaluation and Regional Assistance,” and in-

1           serting “widely disseminate, consistent with sec-  
2           tion 114(j),”;

3                   (H) in paragraph (6), as redesignated by  
4           subparagraph (E)—

5                           (i) by striking “Director” and insert-  
6                           ing “Board”; and

7                           (ii) by striking “of a biennial report,  
8                           as described in section 119” and inserting  
9                           “and dissemination of each evaluation re-  
10                          port under section 116(d)”;

11                   (I) in paragraph (7), as redesignated by  
12           subparagraph (E), by inserting “and which may  
13           include research on social and emotional learn-  
14           ing, and the acquisition of competencies and  
15           skills, including the ability to think critically,  
16           solve complex problems, evaluate evidence, and  
17           communicate effectively,” after “gap,”;

18                   (J) by inserting after paragraph (7), as re-  
19           designated by subparagraph (E), the following:

20                   “(8) to the extent time and resources allow,  
21           when findings from previous research under this  
22           part provoke relevant follow up questions, carry out  
23           research initiatives on such follow up questions;”;

24                   (K) by redesignating paragraphs (10) and  
25           (11) as paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively;

1 (L) by striking paragraph (9), as redesign-  
2 nated by subparagraph (K), and inserting the  
3 following:

4 “(9) carry out research initiatives, including  
5 rigorous, peer-reviewed, large-scale, long-term, and  
6 broadly applicable empirical research, regarding the  
7 impact of technology on education, including online  
8 education and hybrid learning;”;

9 (M) in paragraph (10), as redesignated by  
10 subparagraph (K), by striking the period at the  
11 end and inserting “; and”; and

12 (N) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(11) to the extent feasible, carry out research  
14 on the quality of implementation of practices and  
15 strategies determined to be effective through sci-  
16 entifically valid research.”;

17 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the  
18 following:

19 “(b) PLAN.—The Research Commissioner shall pro-  
20 pose to the Director and, subject to the approval of the  
21 Director, implement a research plan for the activities of  
22 the Research Center that—

23 “(1) is consistent with the priorities and mis-  
24 sion of the Institute and the mission of the Research

1 Center described in section 131(b), and includes the  
2 activities described in subsection (a);

3 “(2) is carried out and, as appropriate, updated  
4 and modified, including through the use of the re-  
5 sults of the Research Center’s most recent evalua-  
6 tion report under section 116(d);

7 “(3) describes how the Research Center will use  
8 the performance management system described in  
9 section 185 to assess and improve the activities of  
10 the Center;

11 “(4) meets the procedures for peer review es-  
12 tablished and maintained by the Director under sec-  
13 tion 114(f)(5) and the standards of research de-  
14 scribed in section 134; and

15 “(5) includes both basic research and applied  
16 research, which shall include research conducted  
17 through field-initiated research and ongoing research  
18 initiatives.”;

19 (3) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-  
20 section (d);

21 (4) by inserting after subsection (b), the fol-  
22 lowing:

23 “(c) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE  
24 AGREEMENTS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Research Commis-  
2           sioner may award grants to, or enter into contracts  
3           or cooperative agreements with, eligible applicants to  
4           carry out research under subsection (a).

5           “(2) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this sub-  
6           section, the term ‘eligible applicant’ means an appli-  
7           cant that has the ability and capacity to conduct sci-  
8           entifically valid research.

9           “(3) APPLICATIONS.—

10           “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible applicant  
11           that wishes to receive a grant, or enter into a  
12           contract or cooperative agreement, under this  
13           section shall submit an application to the Re-  
14           search Commissioner at such time, in such  
15           manner, and containing such information as the  
16           Research Commissioner may require.

17           “(B) CONTENT.—An application submitted  
18           under subparagraph (A) shall describe how the  
19           eligible applicant will address and demonstrate  
20           progress on the requirements of the perform-  
21           ance management system described in section  
22           185, with respect to the activities that will be  
23           carried out under the grant, contract, or coop-  
24           erative agreement.”; and

1           (5) in subsection (d), as redesignated by para-  
2       graph (3)—

3           (A) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-  
4       ing the following:

5           “(1) SUPPORT.—In carrying out activities  
6       under subsection (a)(2), the Research Commissioner  
7       shall support national research and development cen-  
8       ters that address topics of importance and relevance  
9       in the field of education across the country and are  
10      consistent with the Institute’s priorities under sec-  
11      tion 115.”;

12           (B) by striking paragraphs (2), (3), and  
13      (5);

14           (C) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (6),  
15      and (7) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respec-  
16      tively;

17           (D) in paragraph (2), as redesignated by  
18      subparagraph (C)—

19           (i) in the matter preceding subpara-  
20      graph (A), by striking “5 additional” and  
21      inserting “2 additional”;

22           (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
23      “and” after the semicolon;

24           (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
25      the period and inserting “; and”; and



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

3 “(C) demonstrates progress on the require-  
4 ments of the performance management system  
5 described in section 185.”;

6 (E) in paragraph (3), as redesignated by  
7 subparagraph (C), by striking “paragraphs (4)  
8 and (5)” and inserting “paragraph (2)”; and

9 (F) by striking paragraph (4), as redesign-  
10 nated by subparagraph (C), and inserting the  
11 following:

12 “(4) DISAGGREGATION.—To the extent feasible  
13 and when relevant to the research being conducted,  
14 research conducted under this subsection shall be  
15 disaggregated and cross-tabulated by age, race, gen-  
16 der, disability status, English learner status, socio-  
17 economic background, and other population charac-  
18 teristics as determined by the Research Commis-  
19 sioner, so long as any reported information does not  
20 reveal individually identifiable information.”.

21 **SEC. 133. STANDARDS FOR CONDUCT AND EVALUATION OF**  
22 **RESEARCH.**

23 Section 134 (20 U.S.C. 9534) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “based”  
2 and inserting “valid”; and  
3 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and  
4 wide dissemination activities” and inserting  
5 “and, consistent with section 114(j), wide dis-  
6 semination and utilization activities”;  
7 (2) by striking subsection (b); and  
8 (3) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-  
9 section (b).

10 **PART C—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION**  
11 **STATISTICS**

12 **SEC. 151. ESTABLISHMENT.**

13 Section 151(b) (20 U.S.C. 9541(b)) is amended—  
14 (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and con-  
15 sistent with the privacy protections under section  
16 183” after “manner”; and  
17 (2) in paragraph (3)—  
18 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “dis-  
19 ability,” after “cultural,”; and  
20 (B) by striking subparagraph (B) and in-  
21 serting the following:  
22 “(B) consistent with section 114(j), is rel-  
23 evant, timely, and widely disseminated.”.

24 **SEC. 152. DUTIES.**

25 Section 153 (20 U.S.C. 9543) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)—

2 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),  
3 by inserting “, consistent with the privacy pro-  
4 tections under section 183,” after “Center  
5 shall”;

6 (B) in paragraph (1)—

7 (i) by striking subparagraph (D) and  
8 inserting the following:

9 “(D) secondary school graduation and  
10 completion rates, including the four-year ad-  
11 justed cohort graduation rate (as defined in sec-  
12 tion 200.19(b)(1)(i)(A) of title 34, Code of Fed-  
13 eral Regulations, as such section was in effect  
14 on November 28, 2008) and the extended-year  
15 adjusted cohort graduation rate (as defined in  
16 section 200.19(b)(1)(v)(A) of title 34, Code of  
17 Federal Regulations, as such section was in ef-  
18 fect on November 28, 2008), and school drop-  
19 out rates, and adult literacy;”;

20 (ii) in subparagraph (E), by striking  
21 “and opportunity for,” and inserting “op-  
22 portunity for, and completion of”;

23 (iii) by striking subparagraph (F) and  
24 inserting the following:

1           “(F) teaching and school leadership, in-  
2           cluding information on teacher and school lead-  
3           er pre-service preparation, professional develop-  
4           ment, teacher distribution, and teacher and  
5           school leader evaluation;”;

6           (iv) in subparagraph (G), by inserting  
7           “and school leaders” before the semicolon;

8           (v) in subparagraph (H), by inserting  
9           “, climate, and in- and out-of-school sus-  
10          pensions and expulsions” before “, includ-  
11          ing information regarding”;

12          (vi) by striking subparagraph (K) and  
13          inserting the following:

14          “(K) the access to, and use of, technology  
15          to improve elementary schools and secondary  
16          schools;”;

17          (vii) in subparagraph (L), by striking  
18          “and opportunity for,” and inserting “op-  
19          portunity for, and quality of”;

20          (viii) in subparagraph (M), by striking  
21          “such programs during school recesses”  
22          and inserting “summer school”;

23          (ix) in subparagraph (N)—

24                  (I) by striking “vocational” and  
25                  inserting “career”; and

1 (II) by striking “and” after the  
2 semicolon;

3 (x) in subparagraph (O), by inserting  
4 “and” after the semicolon; and

5 (xi) by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing:

7 “(P) access to, and opportunity for, adult  
8 education and literacy activities;”;

9 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “when  
10 such disaggregated information will facilitate  
11 educational and policy decisionmaking” and in-  
12 serting “so long as any reported information  
13 does not reveal individually identifiable informa-  
14 tion”;

15 (D) in paragraph (4), by inserting before  
16 the semicolon the following: “, and the imple-  
17 mentation (with the assistance of the Depart-  
18 ment and other Federal officials who have stat-  
19 utory authority to provide assistance on appli-  
20 cable privacy laws, regulations, and policies) of  
21 appropriate privacy protections”;

22 (E) in paragraph (5)—

23 (i) by striking “determining voluntary  
24 standards and guidelines to assist” and in-

1                   serting “providing technical assistance to”;

2                   and

3                   (ii) by striking “promote linkages

4                   across States,”;

5                   (F) in paragraph (6)—

6                   (i) by striking “Third” and inserting

7                   “Trends in”; and

8                   (ii) by inserting “and the Program for

9                   International Student Assessment” after

10                  “Science Study”;

11                  (G) in paragraph (7), by striking the semi-

12                  colon and inserting the following: “and ensuring

13                  such collections protect student privacy con-

14                  sistent with section 183; and”;

15                  (H) by striking paragraph (8) and insert-

16                  ing the following:

17                  “(8) assisting the Board in the preparation and

18                  dissemination of each evaluation report under sec-

19                  tion 116(d).”; and

20                  (I) by striking paragraph (9);

21                  (2) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-

22                  section (c); and

23                  (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-

24                  lowing:

1 “(b) PLAN.—The Statistics Commissioner shall de-  
2 velop a plan in consultation with the Director and imple-  
3 ment a plan for activities of the Statistics Center that—

4 “(1) is consistent with the priorities and mis-  
5 sion of the Institute and the mission of the Statistics  
6 Center described in section 151(b);

7 “(2) is carried out and, as appropriate, updated  
8 and modified, including through the use of the re-  
9 sults of the Statistic Center’s most recent evaluation  
10 report under section 116(d); and

11 “(3) describes how the Statistics Center will use  
12 the performance management system described in  
13 section 185 to assess and improve the activities of  
14 the Center.”.

15 **SEC. 153. PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES.**

16 Section 154 (20 U.S.C. 9544) is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (a)—

18 (A) by striking “In carrying” and inserting  
19 the following:

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying”;

21 (B) by inserting “to eligible applicants”  
22 after “technical assistance”; and

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

24 “(2) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this sec-  
25 tion, the term ‘eligible applicant’ means an applicant

1       that has the ability and capacity to carry out activi-  
2       ties under this part.

3               “(3) APPLICATIONS.—

4               “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible applicant  
5       that wishes to receive a grant, or enter into a  
6       contract or cooperative agreement, under this  
7       section shall submit an application to the Sta-  
8       tistics Commissioner at such time, in such man-  
9       ner, and containing such information as the  
10      Statistics Commissioner may require.

11              “(B) CONTENTS.—An application sub-  
12      mitted under subparagraph (A) shall describe  
13      how the eligible applicant will address and dem-  
14      onstrate progress on the requirements of the  
15      performance management system described in  
16      section 185, with respect to the activities that  
17      will be carried out under the grant, contract, or  
18      cooperative agreement.”;

19              (2) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by striking “voca-  
20      tional and” and inserting “career and technical edu-  
21      cation programs,”; and

22              (3) in subsection (c), by striking “5 years” the  
23      second place it appears and inserting “2 years if the  
24      recipient demonstrates progress on the requirements  
25      of the performance management system described in



1       section 185, with respect to the activities carried out  
2       under the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement  
3       received under this section”.

4   **SEC. 154. REPORTS.**

5       Section 155 (20 U.S.C. 9545) is amended—

6           (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “(consistent  
7       with section 114(h))” after “review”; and

8           (2) in subsection (b), by striking “2003” and  
9       inserting “2015”.

10   **SEC. 155. DISSEMINATION.**

11       Section 156 (20 U.S.C. 9546) is amended—

12           (1) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the  
13       following: “Such projects shall adhere to student pri-  
14       vacy requirements under section 183.”; and

15           (2) in subsection (e)—

16               (A) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end  
17       the following: “Before receiving access to edu-  
18       cational data under this paragraph, a Federal  
19       agency shall describe to the Statistics Center  
20       the specific research intent for use of the data,  
21       how access to the data may meet such research  
22       intent, and how the Federal agency will protect  
23       the confidentiality of the data consistent with  
24       the requirements of section 183.”;

25               (B) in paragraph (2)—

1 (i) by inserting “and consistent with  
2 section 183” after “may prescribe”; and

3 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
4 lowing: “Before receiving access to data  
5 under this paragraph, an interested party  
6 shall describe to the Statistics Center the  
7 specific research intent for use of the data,  
8 how access to the data may meet such re-  
9 search intent, and how the party will pro-  
10 tect the confidentiality of the data con-  
11 sistent with the requirements of section  
12 183.”; and

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

14 “(3) DENIAL AUTHORITY.—The Statistics Cen-  
15 ter shall have the authority to deny any requests for  
16 access to data under paragraph (1) or (2) if the  
17 data requested would be unnecessary for or unre-  
18 lated to the proposed research design or research in-  
19 tent, or if the request would introduce risk of a pri-  
20 vacy violation or misuse of data.

21 “(4) APPLICABILITY OF REQUIREMENTS.—The  
22 requirements described under the second sentence of  
23 paragraph (1) and the second sentence of paragraph  
24 (2) and the authority under paragraph (3) shall not  
25 apply to public use data sets.”.

1 **SEC. 156. COOPERATIVE EDUCATION STATISTICS SYSTEMS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 157 (20 U.S.C. 9547) is  
3 amended—

4 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**SYS-**  
5 **TEMS**” and inserting “**PARTNERSHIPS**”;

6 (2) by striking “national cooperative education  
7 statistics systems” and inserting “cooperative edu-  
8 cation statistics partnerships”;

9 (3) by striking “producing and maintaining,  
10 with the cooperation” and inserting “reviewing and  
11 improving, with the voluntary participation”;

12 (4) by striking “comparable and uniform” and  
13 inserting “data quality standards, which may include  
14 establishing voluntary guidelines to standardize”;

15 (5) by striking “adult education, and libraries,”  
16 and inserting “and adult education”; and

17 (6) by adding at the end the following: “No stu-  
18 dent data shall be collected by the partnerships es-  
19 tablished under this section, nor shall such partner-  
20 ships establish a national student data system.”.

21 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
22 tents in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public  
23 Law 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking  
24 the item relating to section 157 and inserting the fol-  
25 lowing:

“Sec. 157. Cooperative education statistics partnerships.”.

1     **PART D—NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION**

2     **EVALUATION AND REGIONAL ASSISTANCE**

3     **SEC. 171. ESTABLISHMENT.**

4         Section 171 (20 U.S.C. 9561) is amended—

5             (1) in subsection (b)—

6                 (A) by striking paragraph (1);

7                 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3),  
8             and (4) as paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), respec-  
9             tively;

10             (C) in paragraph (1), as redesignated by  
11             subparagraph (B), by striking “of such pro-  
12             grams” and all that follows through “science)”  
13             and inserting “and to evaluate the implementa-  
14             tion of such programs”;

15             (D) in paragraph (2), as redesignated by  
16             subparagraph (B), by striking “and wide dis-  
17             semination of results of” and inserting “and,  
18             consistent with section 114(j), the wide dissemi-  
19             nation and utilization of results of all”; and

20             (2) by striking subsection (c).

21     **SEC. 172. COMMISSIONER FOR EDUCATION EVALUATION**

22     **AND REGIONAL ASSISTANCE.**

23         Section 172 (20 U.S.C. 9562) is amended—

24             (1) in subsection (a)—

25                 (A) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-  
26             ing the following:

1           “(2) widely disseminate, consistent with section  
2           114(j), all information on scientifically valid research  
3           and statistics supported by the Institute and all sci-  
4           entifically valid education evaluations supported by  
5           the Institute, particularly to State educational agen-  
6           cies and local educational agencies, to institutions of  
7           higher education, to the public, the media, voluntary  
8           organizations, professional associations, and other  
9           constituencies, especially with respect to the prior-  
10          ities described in section 115;”;

11                 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, con-  
12                 sistent with section 114(j)” after “timely, and  
13                 efficient manner”;

14                 (C) in paragraph (4)—

15                         (i) by striking “development and dis-  
16                         semination” and inserting “development,  
17                         dissemination, and utilization”; and

18                         (ii) by striking “the provision of tech-  
19                         nical assistance,”;

20                 (D) in paragraph (5), by inserting “and”  
21                 after the semicolon;

22                 (E) in paragraph (6)—

23                         (i) by striking “Director” and insert-  
24                         ing “Board”;

1 (ii) by striking “preparation of a bien-  
2 nial report” and inserting “preparation  
3 and dissemination of each evaluation re-  
4 port”; and

5 (iii) by striking “119; and” and in-  
6 serting “116(d).”; and

7 (F) by striking paragraph (7);

8 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

9 (A) by inserting “all” before “information  
10 disseminated”; and

11 (B) by striking “, which may include” and  
12 all that follows through “of this Act”);

13 (3) by striking subsection (c);

14 (4) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-  
15 section (e);

16 (5) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-  
17 lowing:

18 “(c) PLAN.—The Evaluation and Regional Assistance  
19 Commissioner shall propose to the Director and, subject  
20 to the approval of the Director, implement a plan for the  
21 activities of the National Center for Education Evaluation  
22 and Regional Assistance that—

23 “(1) is consistent with the priorities and mis-  
24 sion of the Institute and the mission of the Center  
25 described in section 171(b);

1           “(2) is carried out and, as appropriate, updated  
2           and modified, including through the use of the re-  
3           sults of the Center’s most recent evaluation report  
4           under section 116(d); and

5           “(3) describes how the Center will use the per-  
6           formance management system described in section  
7           185 to assess and improve the activities of the Cen-  
8           ter.

9           “(d) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE  
10          AGREEMENTS.—

11           “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the duties  
12           under this part, the Evaluation and Regional Assist-  
13           ance Commissioner may—

14           “(A) award grants, contracts, or coopera-  
15           tive agreements to eligible applicants to carry  
16           out the activities under this part; and

17           “(B) provide technical assistance.

18           “(2) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this sec-  
19           tion, the term ‘eligible applicant’ means an applicant  
20           that has the ability and capacity to carry out activi-  
21           ties under this part.

22           “(3) ENTITIES TO CONDUCT EVALUATIONS.—In  
23           awarding grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-  
24           ments under paragraph (1) to carry out activities  
25           under section 173, the Evaluation and Regional As-

1       sistance Commissioner shall make such awards to el-  
2       igible applicants with the ability and capacity to con-  
3       duct scientifically valid education evaluations.

4               “(4) APPLICATIONS.—

5               “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible applicant  
6       that wishes to receive a grant, contract, or co-  
7       operative agreement under paragraph (1) shall  
8       submit an application to the Evaluation and  
9       Regional Assistance Commissioner at such time,  
10      in such manner, and containing such informa-  
11      tion as the Commissioner may require.

12              “(B) CONTENTS.—An application sub-  
13      mitted under subparagraph (A) shall describe  
14      how the eligible applicant will address and dem-  
15      onstrate progress on the requirements of the  
16      performance management system described in  
17      section 185, with respect to the activities car-  
18      ried out under such grant, contract, or coopera-  
19      tive agreement.

20              “(5) DURATION.—Notwithstanding any other  
21      provision of law, the grants, contracts, and coopera-  
22      tive agreements under paragraph (1) may be award-  
23      ed, on a competitive basis, for a period of not more  
24      than 5 years, and may be renewed at the discretion  
25      of the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commis-



1 sioner for an additional period of not more than 2  
2 years if the recipient demonstrates progress on the  
3 requirements of the performance management sys-  
4 tem described in section 185, with respect to the ac-  
5 tivities carried out under the grant, contract, or co-  
6 operative agreement.”; and

7 (6) in subsection (e), as redesignated by para-  
8 graph (4)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “There is  
10 established” and all that follows through “Re-  
11 gional Assistance” and inserting “The Evalua-  
12 tion and Regional Assistance Commissioner  
13 may establish”;

14 (B) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “all”  
15 before “products”; and

16 (C) in paragraph (2)(B)(ii), by striking  
17 “2002” and all that follows through the period  
18 and inserting “2002).”.

19 **SEC. 173. EVALUATIONS.**

20 Section 173 (20 U.S.C. 9563) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (a)—

22 (A) in paragraph (1)—

23 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-  
24 graph (A), by striking “may” and inserting  
25 “shall”;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
2 “evaluations” and inserting “high-quality  
3 evaluations, including impact evaluations  
4 that use rigorous methodologies that per-  
5 mit the strongest possible causal infer-  
6 ences,”;

7 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
8 before the semicolon at the end the fol-  
9 lowing: “, including programs under part  
10 A of such title (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.)”;

11 (iv) by striking subparagraph (C);

12 (v) by redesignating subparagraph  
13 (D) as subparagraph (C);

14 (vi) by striking subparagraphs (E)  
15 and (G);

16 (vii) by redesignating subparagraph  
17 (F) as subparagraph (D);

18 (viii) in subparagraph (D), as redesign-  
19 ated by clause (vii), by striking “and” at  
20 the end; and

21 (ix) by inserting after subparagraph  
22 (D), as redesignated by clause (vii), the  
23 following:

1           “(E) provide evaluation findings in an un-  
2           derstandable, easily accessible, and usable for-  
3           mat to support program improvement;

4           “(F) support the evaluation activities de-  
5           scribed in section 401 of the Strengthening  
6           Education through Research Act that are car-  
7           ried out by the Director; and

8           “(G) to the extent feasible—

9           “(i) examine evaluations conducted or  
10          supported by others to determine the qual-  
11          ity and relevance of the evidence of effec-  
12          tiveness generated by those evaluations,  
13          with the approval of the Director;

14          “(ii) review and supplement Federal  
15          education program evaluations, particularly  
16          such evaluations by the Department, to de-  
17          termine or enhance the quality and rel-  
18          evance of the evidence generated by those  
19          evaluations;

20          “(iii) conduct implementation evalua-  
21          tions that promote continuous improve-  
22          ment and inform policymaking;

23          “(iv) evaluate the short- and long-  
24          term effects and cost efficiencies across  
25          programs assisted or authorized under

1 Federal law and administrated by the De-  
2 partment; and

3 “(v) synthesize the results of evalua-  
4 tion studies for and across Federal edu-  
5 cation programs, policies, and practices.”;  
6 and

7 (B) in paragraph (2)—

8 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
9 “and” at the end;

10 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
11 the period and inserting “under section  
12 114(h); and”; and

13 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
14 lowing:

15 “(C) be widely disseminated, consistent  
16 with section 114(j).”; and

17 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “contracts”  
18 and inserting “grants, contracts, or cooperative  
19 agreements”.

20 **SEC. 174. REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL LABORATORIES FOR**  
21 **RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, DISSEMINATION,**  
22 **AND EVALUATION.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 174 (20 U.S.C. 9564) is  
24 amended—

1 (1) in the section heading by striking “**TECH-**  
2 **NICAL ASSISTANCE**” and inserting “**EVALUA-**  
3 **TION**”;

4 (2) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) by striking “The Director” and insert-  
6 ing “Except as provided in subsection (e)(8),  
7 the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Com-  
8 missioner”; and

9 (B) by striking “contracts” and inserting  
10 “grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements”;

11 (3) in subsection (c)—

12 (A) by striking “The Director” and insert-  
13 ing the following:

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Evaluation and Re-  
15 gional Assistance Commissioner”;

16 (B) by striking “contracts under this sec-  
17 tion with research organizations, institutions,  
18 agencies, institutions of higher education,” and  
19 inserting “grants, contracts, or cooperative  
20 agreements under this section with public or  
21 private, nonprofit or for-profit research organi-  
22 zations, other organizations, or institutions of  
23 higher education,”;

24 (C) by striking “or individuals,”;

1 (D) by striking “, including regional enti-  
2 ties” and all that follows through “107–110))”;  
3 and

4 (E) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this sec-  
6 tion, the term ‘eligible applicant’ means an entity  
7 described in paragraph (1).”;

8 (4) by striking subsections (d) through (j) and  
9 inserting the following:

10 “(d) APPLICATIONS.—

11 “(1) SUBMISSION.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible appli-  
13 cant desiring a contract grant, contract, or co-  
14 operative agreement under this section shall  
15 submit an application at such time, in such  
16 manner, and containing such information as the  
17 Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commis-  
18 sioner may reasonably require.

19 “(B) INPUT.—To ensure that applications  
20 submitted under this paragraph are reflective of  
21 the needs of the regions to be served, each eligi-  
22 ble applicant submitting such an application  
23 shall seek input from State educational agencies  
24 and local educational agencies in the region

1           that the award will serve, and other individuals  
2           with knowledge of the region's needs.

3           “(2) PLAN.—

4                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each application sub-  
5           mitted under paragraph (1) shall contain a plan  
6           for the activities of the regional educational lab-  
7           oratory to be established under this section,  
8           which shall be updated, modified, and improved,  
9           as appropriate, on an ongoing basis, including  
10          by using the results of the laboratory's interim  
11          evaluation under subsection (i)(3).

12                  “(B) CONTENTS.—A plan described in  
13          subparagraph (A) shall address—

14                          “(i) the priorities for applied research,  
15                          development, evaluations, and wide dis-  
16                          semination established under section 207;

17                          “(ii) the needs of State educational  
18                          agencies and local educational agencies, on  
19                          an ongoing basis, using available State and  
20                          local data; and

21                          “(iii) if available, demonstrated sup-  
22                          port from State educational agencies and  
23                          local educational agencies in the region,  
24                          such as letters of support or signed memo-  
25                          randa of understanding.

1           “(3) NON-FEDERAL SUPPORT.—In conducting a  
2           competition for grants, contracts, or cooperative  
3           agreements under subsection (a), the Evaluation and  
4           Regional Assistance Commissioner shall give priority  
5           to eligible applicants that will provide a portion of  
6           non-Federal funds to maximize support for activities  
7           of the regional educational laboratories to be estab-  
8           lished under this section.

9           “(e) AWARDING GRANTS, CONTRACTS, OR COOPERA-  
10          TIVE AGREEMENTS.—

11           “(1) ASSURANCES.—In awarding grants, con-  
12           tracts, or cooperative agreements under this section,  
13           the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commis-  
14           sioner shall—

15                   “(A) make such an award for not more  
16                   than a 5-year period;

17                   “(B) ensure that regional educational lab-  
18                   oratories established under this section have  
19                   strong and effective governance, organization,  
20                   management, and administration, and employ  
21                   qualified staff; and

22                   “(C) ensure that each such laboratory has  
23                   the flexibility to respond in a timely fashion to  
24                   the needs of the laboratory’s region, includ-  
25                   ing—



1 “(i) through using the results of the  
2 laboratory’s interim evaluation under sub-  
3 section (i)(3) to improve and modify the  
4 activities of the laboratory before the end  
5 of the award period; and

6 “(ii) through sharing preliminary re-  
7 sults of the laboratory’s research, as ap-  
8 propriate, to increase the relevance and  
9 usefulness of the research.

10 “(2) COORDINATION.—To ensure coordination  
11 and prevent unnecessary duplication of activities  
12 among the regions, the Evaluation and Regional As-  
13 sistance Commissioner shall—

14 “(A) share information about the activities  
15 of each regional educational laboratory with  
16 each other regional educational laboratory, the  
17 Department, the Director, and the National  
18 Board for Education Sciences;

19 “(B) ensure, where appropriate, that the  
20 activities of each regional educational laboratory  
21 established under this section also serve na-  
22 tional interests;

23 “(C) ensure each such regional educational  
24 laboratory establishes strong partnerships  
25 among practitioners, policymakers, researchers,

1           and others, so that such partnerships are con-  
2           tinued in the absence of Federal support; and

3           “(D) enable, where appropriate, for such a  
4           laboratory to work in a region being served by  
5           another laboratory or to carry out a project  
6           that extends beyond the region served by the  
7           laboratory.

8           “(3) COLLABORATION WITH TECHNICAL ASSIST-  
9           ANCE PROVIDERS.—Each regional educational lab-  
10          oratory established under this section shall, on an  
11          ongoing basis, coordinate its activities, collaborate,  
12          and regularly exchange information with the com-  
13          prehensive centers (established in section 203) in the  
14          region in which the center is located, and with com-  
15          prehensive centers located outside of its region, as  
16          appropriate.

17          “(4) OUTREACH.—In conducting competitions  
18          for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements  
19          under this section, the Evaluation and Regional As-  
20          sistance Commissioner shall—

21                 “(A) by making information and technical  
22                 assistance relating to the competition widely  
23                 available, actively encourage eligible applicants  
24                 to compete for such an award; and

1           “(B) seek input from the chief executive  
2           officers of States, chief State school officers,  
3           educators, parents, superintendents, and other  
4           individuals with knowledge of the needs of the  
5           regions to be served by the awards, regarding—

6                   “(i) the needs in the regions for ap-  
7                   plied research, evaluation, development,  
8                   and wide-dissemination activities author-  
9                   ized by this title; and

10                   “(ii) how such needs may be ad-  
11                   dressed most effectively.

12           “(5) PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.—Before  
13           the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commis-  
14           sioner awards a grant, contract, or cooperative  
15           agreement under this section, the Director shall es-  
16           tablish measurable performance indicators for as-  
17           sessing the ongoing progress and performance of the  
18           regional educational laboratories established with  
19           such awards that address the requirements of the  
20           performance management system described in sec-  
21           tion 185.

22           “(6) STANDARDS.—The Evaluation and Re-  
23           gional Assistance Commissioner shall adhere to the  
24           Institute’s system for technical and peer review  
25           under section 114(h) in reviewing the applied re-

1 search activities and research-based reports of the  
2 regional educational laboratories.

3 “(7) REQUIRED CONSIDERATION.—In deter-  
4 mining whether to award a grant, contract, or coop-  
5 erative agreement under this section—

6 “(A) to an eligible applicant that pre-  
7 viously established a regional educational lab-  
8 oratory under this section, the Evaluation and  
9 Regional Assistance Commissioner shall—

10 “(i) consider the results of such lab-  
11 oratory’s summative evaluation under sub-  
12 section (i)(2), or, if not available, any in-  
13 terim evaluation findings under subsection  
14 (i)(3); and

15 “(ii) ensure that only such labora-  
16 tories determined effective in their relevant  
17 interim or summative evaluations, as de-  
18 scribed in subsection (i), are eligible to re-  
19 ceive a new grant, contract, or cooperative  
20 agreement; and

21 “(B) to any eligible applicant, the Evalua-  
22 tion and Regional Assistance Commissioner  
23 shall ensure that such applicant has—

24 “(i) a history of effectiveness in con-  
25 ducting high-quality applied research; and

1 “(ii) the capacity to meet the measur-  
2 able performance indicators established  
3 under paragraph (5).

4 “(8) FLEXIBILITY IN LABORATORY NUMBER.—

5 “(A) DETERMINATION.—The Evaluation  
6 and Regional Assistance Commissioner, in con-  
7 sultation with the regional educational labora-  
8 tory advisory boards described in subsection  
9 (h), may determine that establishing 10 re-  
10 gional educational laboratories is unnecessary,  
11 as required in subsection (a), and grant an al-  
12 ternative number of awards or reorganize such  
13 laboratories, which may include not basing the  
14 awards on the regions described in subsection  
15 (b), if—

16 “(i) an insufficient number of regional  
17 educational laboratories are meeting the  
18 needs of the regions described in sub-  
19 section (b), as determined by the Commis-  
20 sioner;

21 “(ii) an insufficient number of labora-  
22 tories are meeting the measurable perform-  
23 ance indicators established under para-  
24 graph (5), as determined by the Commis-  
25 sioner and the most recent interim or

1                   summative evaluation under subsection (i);  
2                   or

3                   “(iii) an insufficient number of eligi-  
4                   ble applicants have the capacity to meet  
5                   the measurable performance indicators es-  
6                   tablished under paragraph (5), as deter-  
7                   mined by the Commissioner.

8                   “(B) LIMITATION.—If the Evaluation and  
9                   Regional Assistance Commissioner uses the de-  
10                  termination authority described in subpara-  
11                  graph (A), there shall be no more than 10 re-  
12                  gional educational laboratories established.

13               “(f) MISSION.—Each regional educational laboratory  
14               established under this section shall—

15               “(1) conduct applied research, development,  
16               data analysis, and evaluation activities with State  
17               educational agencies, local educational agencies, and,  
18               as appropriate, schools funded by the Bureau;

19               “(2) widely disseminate such work, consistent  
20               with section 114(j); and

21               “(3) develop the capacity of State educational  
22               agencies, local educational agencies, and, as appro-  
23               priate, schools funded by the Bureau to carry out  
24               the activities described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

1       “(g) ACTIVITIES.—To carry out the mission de-  
2       scribed in subsection (f), each regional educational labora-  
3       tory established under this section shall carry out the fol-  
4       lowing activities:

5               “(1) Conduct, widely disseminate, and promote  
6       utilization of applied research, development activi-  
7       ties, evaluations, data analysis, and other scientif-  
8       ically valid research.

9               “(2) Develop and improve the plan for the lab-  
10      oratory under subsection (d)(2) for serving the re-  
11      gion of the laboratory, and as appropriate, national  
12      needs, on an ongoing basis, which shall include seek-  
13      ing input and incorporating feedback from the rep-  
14      resentatives of State educational agencies and local  
15      educational agencies in the region, and other individ-  
16      uals with knowledge of the region’s needs.

17              “(3) Ensure research and related products are  
18      relevant and responsive to the needs of the region.

19      “(h) REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL LABORATORY ADVI-  
20      SORY BOARD.—

21              “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Each regional edu-  
22      cational laboratory established under this section  
23      may establish an advisory board that shall support  
24      the priorities of such laboratory.

1           “(2) DUTIES.—Each advisory board established  
2           under paragraph (1) shall advise the regional edu-  
3           cational laboratory—

4                   “(A) concerning the activities described in  
5                   subsection (g);

6                   “(B) on strategies for monitoring and ad-  
7                   dressing the educational needs of the region, on  
8                   an ongoing basis, and as appropriate, national  
9                   needs;

10                   “(C) on maintaining a high standard of  
11                   quality in the performance of the laboratory’s  
12                   activities, especially in meeting the measurable  
13                   performance indicators established under sub-  
14                   section (e)(5);

15                   “(D) on carrying out the laboratory’s du-  
16                   ties in a manner that promotes progress toward  
17                   improving student academic achievement.;

18                   “(E) on the activities undertaken by the  
19                   comprehensive center in the region, other cen-  
20                   ters, as appropriate, and other laboratories to  
21                   align the work of such entities, reduce redun-  
22                   dancy, and increase collaboration and resource-  
23                   sharing in such activities; and



1           “(F) on joint activities with other com-  
2           prehensive centers or laboratories that would  
3           meet the needs of multiple regions.

4           “(3) COMPOSITION.—

5           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each advisory board  
6           shall—

7                   “(i) not exceed 25 members;

8                   “(ii) include the chief State school of-  
9                   ficer, or such officer’s designee, or other  
10                  State official, of States within the region  
11                  of the laboratory who have primary respon-  
12                  sibility under State law for elementary and  
13                  secondary education in the State;

14                  “(iii) include representatives of local  
15                  educational agencies, including rural and  
16                  urban local educational agencies, that rep-  
17                  resent the geographic diversity of the re-  
18                  gion;

19                  “(iv) include researchers; and

20                  “(v) include not less than 1 represent-  
21                  ative from an advisory board of a com-  
22                  prehensive center serving the region, if ap-  
23                  plicable.

1                   “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—The membership of  
2                   each regional educational laboratory advisory  
3                   board may include the following:

4                   “(i) Representatives of institutions of  
5                   higher education.

6                   “(ii) Parents.

7                   “(iii) Practicing educators, including  
8                   classroom teachers, school leaders, admin-  
9                   istrators, school board members, and other  
10                  local school officials.

11                  “(iv) Representatives of business.

12                  “(v) Policymakers.

13                  “(4) RECOMMENDATIONS.—In choosing individ-  
14                  uals for membership on a regional educational lab-  
15                  oratory advisory board, the regional educational lab-  
16                  oratory shall consult with, and solicit recommenda-  
17                  tions from, the Evaluation and Regional Assistance  
18                  Commissioner, the chief executive officers of States,  
19                  chief State school officers, local educational agencies,  
20                  and other education stakeholders within the applica-  
21                  ble region.

22                  “(5) SPECIAL RULE.—The total number of  
23                  members on each regional educational laboratory ad-  
24                  visory board who are selected under clauses (ii) and  
25                  (iii) of paragraph (3)(A), in the aggregate, shall ex-

1       ceed the total number of members who are selected  
2       under paragraph (3)(B), collectively.

3       “(i) EVALUATIONS.—

4               “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Evaluation and Re-  
5       gional Assistance Commissioner shall—

6               “(A) provide for ongoing summative and  
7       interim evaluations described in paragraphs (2)  
8       and (3), respectively, of each of the regional  
9       educational laboratories established under this  
10      section in carrying out the full range of duties  
11      described in this section; and

12              “(B) transmit the results of such evalua-  
13      tions, through appropriate means, to the appro-  
14      priate congressional committees, the Director,  
15      and the public.

16              “(2) SUMMATIVE EVALUATIONS.—The Evalua-  
17      tion and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall en-  
18      sure each regional educational laboratory established  
19      under this section is evaluated by an independent  
20      entity at the end of the period of the grant, contract,  
21      or cooperative agreement that established such lab-  
22      oratory, which shall—

23              “(A) be completed in a timely fashion;

1           “(B) assess how well the laboratory is  
2           meeting the measurable performance indicators  
3           established under subsection (e)(5); and

4           “(C) consider the extent to which the lab-  
5           oratory ensures that the activities of such lab-  
6           oratory are relevant and useful to the work of  
7           State and local practitioners and policymakers.

8           “(3) INTERIM EVALUATIONS.—The Evaluation  
9           and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall ensure  
10          each regional educational laboratory established  
11          under this section is evaluated at the midpoint of the  
12          period of the grant, contract, or cooperative agree-  
13          ment that established such laboratory, which shall—

14           “(A) assess how well such laboratory is  
15           meeting the performance indicators described in  
16           subsection (e)(5); and

17           “(B) be used to improve the effectiveness  
18           of such laboratory in carrying out its plan  
19           under subsection (d)(2).

20          “(j) CONTINUATION OF AWARDS; RECOMPETITION.—

21           “(1) CONTINUATION OF AWARDS.—The Evalua-  
22           tion and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall  
23           continue awards made to each eligible applicant for  
24           the support of regional educational laboratories es-  
25           tablished under this section prior to the date of en-

1        actment of the Strengthening Education through  
2        Research Act, as such awards were in effect on the  
3        day before the date of enactment of the Strengthening  
4        Education through Research Act, for the duration of those awards, in accordance with the terms  
5        and agreements of such awards.  
6

7            “(2) RECOMPETITION.—Not later than the end  
8        of the period of the awards described in paragraph  
9        (1), the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall—  
10

11            “(A) hold a competition to make grants,  
12        contracts, or cooperative agreements under this  
13        section to eligible applicants, which may include  
14        eligible applicants that held awards described in  
15        paragraph (1); and

16            “(B) in determining whether to select an  
17        eligible applicant that held an award described  
18        in paragraph (1) for an award under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, consider the results of the summative evaluation under subsection (i)(2) of the laboratory established with  
19        the eligible applicant’s award described in paragraph (1).”;  
20  
21  
22  
23

24        (5) by striking subsection (l);

1           (6) by redesignating subsections (m), (n), and  
2           (o) as subsections (l), (m), and (n), respectively;

3           (7) in subsection (l), as redesignated by para-  
4           graph (6), by inserting “and local” after “achieve  
5           State”;

6           (8) by striking subsection (m), as redesignated  
7           by paragraph (6), and inserting the following:

8           “(m) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each regional educational  
9           laboratory established under this section shall submit to  
10          the Evaluation and Regional Assistance Commissioner an  
11          annual report containing such information as the Commis-  
12          sioner may require, but which shall include, at a minimum,  
13          the following:

14               “(1) A summary of the laboratory’s activities  
15               and products developed during the previous year.

16               “(2) A listing of the State educational agencies,  
17               local educational agencies, and schools the labora-  
18               tory assisted during the previous year.

19               “(3) Using the measurable performance indica-  
20               tors established under subsection (e)(5), a descrip-  
21               tion of how well the laboratory is meeting edu-  
22               cational needs of the region served by the laboratory.

23               “(4) Any changes to the laboratory’s plan under  
24               subsection (d)(2) to improve its activities in the re-

1       maining years of the grant, contract, or cooperative  
2       agreement.”; and

3               (9) by adding at the end the following:

4       “(o)    APPROPRIATIONS    RESERVATION.—Of   the  
5   amounts appropriated under section 194(a), the Evalua-  
6   tion and Regional Assistance Commissioner shall reserve  
7   16.13 percent of such funds to carry out this section, of  
8   which the Commissioner shall use not less than 25 percent  
9   to serve rural areas (including schools funded by the Bu-  
10   reau which are located in rural areas).”.

11       (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
12   tents in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public  
13   Law 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking  
14   the item relating to section 174 and inserting the fol-  
15   lowing:

      “Sec. 174. Regional educational laboratories for research, development, disse-  
          nation, and evaluation.”.

16       **PART E—NATIONAL CENTER FOR SPECIAL**  
17               **EDUCATION RESEARCH**

18   **SEC. 175. ESTABLISHMENT.**

19       Section 175(b) (20 U.S.C. 9567(b)) is amended—

20               (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “and chil-  
21       dren” and inserting “children, and youth”;

22               (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the  
23       end;

1           (3) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at  
2           the end and inserting a semicolon; and

3           (4) by adding at the end the following:

4           “(4) to promote quality and integrity through  
5           the use of accepted practices of scientific inquiry to  
6           obtain knowledge and understanding of the validity  
7           of education theories, practices, or conditions with  
8           respect to special education research and evaluation  
9           described in paragraphs (1) through (3); and

10          “(5) to promote scientifically valid research  
11          findings in special education that may provide the  
12          basis for improving academic instruction and lifelong  
13          learning.”.

14 **SEC. 176. COMMISSIONER FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION RE-**  
15 **SEARCH.**

16          Section 176 (20 U.S.C. 9567a) is amended by insert-  
17          ing “and youth” after “children”.

18 **SEC. 177. DUTIES.**

19          Section 177 (20 U.S.C. 9567b) is amended—

20               (1) in subsection (a)—

21                       (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “and  
22                       youth” after “children”;

23                       (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “scientif-  
24                       ically based educational practices” and inserting  
25                       “educational practices, including the use of



1 technology based on scientifically valid re-  
2 search,”;

3 (C) in paragraph (4)—

4 (i) by striking “scientifically based”;  
5 and

6 (ii) by inserting “are based on sci-  
7 entifically valid research and” after “inter-  
8 ventions that”;

9 (D) in paragraph (10), by inserting before  
10 the semicolon the following: “, including how  
11 secondary school credentials are related to post-  
12 secondary and employment outcomes”;

13 (E) by redesignating paragraphs (11)  
14 through (15) and paragraphs (16) and (17) as  
15 paragraphs (12) through (16), respectively, and  
16 paragraphs (18) and (19), respectively;

17 (F) by inserting after paragraph (10), the  
18 following:

19 “(11) examine the participation and outcomes  
20 of students with disabilities in secondary and post-  
21 secondary career and technical education pro-  
22 grams;”;

23 (G) in paragraph (14), as redesignated by  
24 subparagraph (E), by inserting “and profes-  
25 sional development” after “preparation”;

1 (H) in paragraph (16), as redesignated by  
2 subparagraph (E), by striking “help parents”  
3 and inserting “examine the methods by which  
4 parents may”;

5 (I) by inserting after paragraph (16), as  
6 redesignated by subparagraph (E), the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 “(17) assist the Board in the preparation and  
9 dissemination of each evaluation report under sec-  
10 tion 116(d);”;

11 (J) in paragraph (18), as redesignated by  
12 subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at the  
13 end;

14 (K) by striking paragraph (19), as redesign-  
15 ated by subparagraph (E), and inserting the  
16 following:

17 “(19) examine the needs of children with dis-  
18 abilities who are English learners, are gifted and tal-  
19 ented, or have other unique learning needs; and”;  
20 and

21 (L) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(20) examine innovations in the field of special  
23 education, such as multi-tiered systems of support.”;

24 (2) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph

2 (1)—

3 (i) by inserting “for the activities of  
4 the Special Education Research Center”  
5 after “a research plan”; and

6 (ii) by striking “Services, that—” and  
7 inserting “Services, and, subject to the ap-  
8 proval of the Director, implement the re-  
9 search plan. The research plan shall be a  
10 plan that—”;

11 (B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “de-  
12 scribed in section 175(b)” after “Center”;

13 (C) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-  
14 ing the following:

15 “(2) is carried out, and, as appropriate, up-  
16 dated and modified, including by using the results of  
17 the Special Education Research Center’s most recent  
18 evaluation report under section 116(d);”;

19 (D) by striking paragraph (5);

20 (E) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4),  
21 and (6) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (7), respec-  
22 tively;

23 (F) by inserting after paragraph (2) the  
24 following:

1 “(3) provides for research that addresses sig-  
2 nificant questions of practice where such research is  
3 lacking;”;

4 (G) in paragraph (5), as redesignated by  
5 subparagraph (E), by striking “and types of  
6 children with” and inserting “, student sub-  
7 groups, and types of”; and

8 (H) by inserting after paragraph (5), as  
9 redesignated by subparagraph (E), the fol-  
10 lowing:

11 “(6) describes how the Special Education Re-  
12 search Center will use the performance management  
13 system described in section 185 to assess and im-  
14 prove the activities of the Center; and”;

15 (3) in subsection (d)—

16 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “Direc-  
17 tor” and inserting “Special Education Research  
18 Commissioner”;

19 (B) by striking paragraph (3) and insert-  
20 ing the following:

21 “(3) APPLICATIONS.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible applicant  
23 that wishes to receive a grant, or enter into a  
24 contract or cooperative agreement, under this  
25 section shall submit an application to the Spe-

1           cial Education Research Commissioner at such  
2           time, in such manner, and containing such in-  
3           formation as the Special Education Research  
4           Commissioner may require.

5                   “(B) CONTENTS.—An application sub-  
6           mitted under subparagraph (A) shall describe  
7           how the eligible applicant will address and dem-  
8           onstrate progress on the requirements of the  
9           performance management system described in  
10          section 185, with respect to the activities that  
11          will be carried out under such grant, contract,  
12          or cooperative agreement.”; and

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

14                   “(4) DURATION.—Notwithstanding any other  
15          provision of law, the grants, contracts, and coopera-  
16          tive agreements under this section may be awarded  
17          or entered into, on a competitive basis, for a period  
18          of not more than 5 years, and may be renewed at  
19          the discretion of the Special Education Research  
20          Commissioner for an additional period of not more  
21          than 2 years if the recipient demonstrates progress  
22          on the requirements of the performance management  
23          system described in section 185, with respect to the  
24          activities carried out under the grant, contract, or

1 cooperative agreement received or entered into under  
2 this section.”;

3 (4) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the  
4 following:

5 “(e) DISSEMINATION.—The Special Education Re-  
6 search Center shall synthesize and, consistent with section  
7 114(j), widely disseminate and promote utilization of the  
8 findings and results of special education research con-  
9 ducted or supported by the Special Education Research  
10 Center.”; and

11 (5) in subsection (f), by striking “part such  
12 sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years  
13 2005 through 2010.” and inserting the following:  
14 “part—

15 “(1) for fiscal year 2015, \$54,000,000;

16 “(2) for fiscal year 2016, \$55,080,000;

17 “(3) for fiscal year 2017, \$56,181,600;

18 “(4) for fiscal year 2018, \$57,305,232;

19 “(5) for fiscal year 2019, \$58,394,031; and

20 “(6) for fiscal year 2020, \$66,151,452.”.

21 **PART F—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

22 **SEC. 182. PROHIBITIONS.**

23 Section 182 (20 U.S.C. 9572) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b), by inserting “specific aca-  
2 demic achievement or content standards or assess-  
3 ments,” after “the curriculum,”; and

4 (2) in subsection (c), by striking “an elemen-  
5 tary school or secondary school” and inserting  
6 “early education, or in an elementary school, sec-  
7 ondary school, or institution of higher education”.

8 **SEC. 183. CONFIDENTIALITY.**

9 Section 183 (20 U.S.C. 9573) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (b)—

11 (A) by striking “their families, and infor-  
12 mation with respect to individual schools,” and  
13 inserting “and their families”; and

14 (B) by inserting before the period at the  
15 end the following: “, and that any disclosed in-  
16 formation with respect to individual schools not  
17 reveal such individually identifiable informa-  
18 tion”;

19 (2) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting “, includ-  
20 ing voluntary and uncompensated services under sec-  
21 tion 190” after “providing services”; and

22 (3) in subsection (e)(1), in the matter preceding  
23 subparagraph (A), by inserting “and Director” after  
24 “Secretary”.

1   **SEC. 184. AVAILABILITY OF DATA.**

2           Section 184 (20 U.S.C. 9574) is amended by striking  
3   “use of the Internet” and inserting “electronic means,  
4   such as posting in an easily accessible manner on the In-  
5   stitute’s website”.

6   **SEC. 185. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.**

7           Section 185 (20 U.S.C. 9575) is amended to read as  
8   follows:

9   **“SEC. 185. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.**

10          “The Director shall establish a system for managing  
11   the performance of all activities authorized under this title  
12   to promote continuous improvement of the activities and  
13   to ensure the effective use of Federal funds by—

14               “(1) developing and using measurable perform-  
15   ance indicators, including timelines, to evaluate and  
16   improve the effectiveness of the activities;

17               “(2) using the performance indicators described  
18   in paragraph (1) to inform funding decisions, includ-  
19   ing the awarding and continuation of all grants, con-  
20   tracts, and cooperative agreements under this title;

21               “(3) establishing and improving formal feed-  
22   back mechanisms to—

23                       “(A) anticipate and meet stakeholder  
24   needs; and



1 “(B) incorporate, on an ongoing basis, the  
2 feedback of such stakeholders into the activities  
3 authorized under this title; and

4 “(4) promoting the wide dissemination and uti-  
5 lization, consistent with section 114(j), of all infor-  
6 mation, products, and publications of the Institute.”.

7 **SEC. 186. AUTHORITY TO PUBLISH.**

8 Section 186(b) (20 U.S.C. 9576(b)) is amended by  
9 striking “any information to be published under this sec-  
10 tion before publication” and inserting “any publication  
11 under this section before the public release of such publi-  
12 cation”.

13 **SEC. 187. REPEALS.**

14 (a) REPEALS.—Sections 187 (20 U.S.C. 9577) and  
15 193 (20 U.S.C. 9583) are repealed.

16 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of con-  
17 tents in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public  
18 Law 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking  
19 the items relating to sections 187 and 193.

20 **SEC. 188. FELLOWSHIPS.**

21 Section 189 (20 U.S.C. 9579) is amended—

22 (1) by inserting “and the mission of each Na-  
23 tional Education Center authorized under this title”  
24 after “related to education”; and

1           (2) by striking “historically Black colleges and  
2           universities” and inserting “minority-serving institu-  
3           tions”.

4   **SEC. 189. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5           Section 194 (20 U.S.C. 9584) is amended—

6           (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the  
7           following:

8           “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-  
9           propriated to administer and carry out this title (except  
10          part E)—

11           “(1) for fiscal year 2015, \$337,343,000;

12           “(2) for fiscal year 2016, \$344,089,860;

13           “(3) for fiscal year 2017, \$350,971,657;

14           “(4) for fiscal year 2018, \$357,991,090;

15           “(5) for fiscal year 2019, \$364,792,921; and

16           “(6) for fiscal year 2020, \$368,440,850.”; and

17           (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the  
18           following:

19           “(b) RESERVATIONS.—Of the amounts appropriated  
20          under subsection (a) for each fiscal year—

21           “(1) not less than the amount provided to the  
22          National Center for Education Statistics (as such  
23          Center was in existence on the day before the date  
24          of enactment of the Strengthening Education  
25          through Research Act) for fiscal year 2014 shall be

1 provided to the National Center for Education Sta-  
2 tistics, as authorized under part C; and

3 “(2) not more than the lesser of 2 percent of  
4 such appropriated amounts or \$2,000,000 shall be  
5 made available to carry out section 116 (relating to  
6 the National Board for Education Sciences).”.

## 7 **TITLE II—EDUCATIONAL** 8 **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### 9 **SEC. 201. REFERENCES.**

10 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in  
11 this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
12 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-  
13 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a  
14 section or other provision of the Educational Technical As-  
15 sistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).

### 16 **SEC. 202. DEFINITIONS.**

17 Section 202 (20 U.S.C. 9601) is amended—

18 (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-  
19 graph (3); and

20 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-  
21 lowing:

22 “(2) SCHOOL LEADER.—The term ‘school lead-  
23 er’ has the meaning given the term in section 102.”.

### 24 **SEC. 203. COMPREHENSIVE CENTERS.**

25 Section 203 (20 U.S.C. 9602) is amended—

1           (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the  
2 following:

3           “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

4           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3)  
5 and except as provided in subsection (b)(5), the Sec-  
6 retary shall award 17 grants, contracts, or coopera-  
7 tive agreements to eligible applicants to establish  
8 comprehensive centers.

9           “(2) MISSION.—The mission of the comprehen-  
10 sive centers is to provide State educational agencies  
11 and local educational agencies technical assistance,  
12 analysis, and training to build their capacity in im-  
13 plementing the requirements of the Elementary and  
14 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301  
15 et seq.) and other Federal education laws, and re-  
16 search-based practices.

17           “(3) REGIONS.—In awarding grants, contracts,  
18 or cooperative agreements under paragraph (1), the  
19 Secretary—

20           “(A) shall establish at least one com-  
21 prehensive center for each of the 10 geographic  
22 regions served by the regional educational lab-  
23 oratories established under section 941(h) of  
24 the Educational Research, Development, Dis-  
25 semination, and Improvement Act of 1994 (20

1 U.S.C. 6041(h)) (as such provision existed on  
2 the day before the date of enactment of this  
3 Act);

4 “(B) may establish additional comprehen-  
5 sive centers—

6 “(i) for one or more of the regions de-  
7 scribed in subparagraph (A); or

8 “(ii) to serve the Nation as a whole by  
9 providing technical assistance on a par-  
10 ticular content area of importance to the  
11 Nation, as determined by the Secretary;  
12 and

13 “(C) may make such arrangements as the  
14 Secretary determines necessary to ensure that  
15 the Bureau of Indian Education and States or  
16 local educational agencies serving significant  
17 numbers of American Indian, Alaska Native, or  
18 Native Hawaiian students have access to serv-  
19 ices provided under this section.

20 “(4) NATION.—In the case of a comprehensive  
21 center established to serve the Nation as described  
22 in paragraph (3)(B)(ii), the Nation shall be consid-  
23 ered to be a region served by such Center.

24 “(5) AWARD PERIOD.—A grant, contract, or co-  
25 operative agreement under this section may be

1       awarded, on a competitive basis, for a period of not  
2       more than 5 years.

3           “(6) RESPONSIVENESS.—The Secretary shall  
4       ensure that each comprehensive center established  
5       under this section has the ability to respond in a  
6       timely fashion to the needs of State educational  
7       agencies and local educational agencies, including  
8       through using the results of the center’s interim  
9       evaluation under section 204(c), to improve and  
10      modify the activities of the center before the end of  
11      the award period.”;

12           (2) in subsection (b)—

13           (A) in paragraph (1)—

14           (i) by inserting “, contracts, or coop-  
15       erative agreements” after “Grants”;

16           (ii) by striking “research organiza-  
17       tions, institutions, agencies, institutions of  
18       higher education,” and inserting “public or  
19       private, nonprofit or for-profit research or-  
20       ganizations, other organizations, or institu-  
21       tions of higher education,”;

22           (iii) by striking “, or individuals,”;

23           (iv) by striking “subsection (f)” and  
24       inserting “subsection (e)”; and

1 (v) by striking “, including regional”  
2 and all that follows through “107–110))”;  
3 and

4 (B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and  
5 inserting the following:

6 “(2) OUTREACH.—In conducting competitions  
7 for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements  
8 under this section, the Secretary shall—

9 “(A) by making widely available informa-  
10 tion and technical assistance relating to the  
11 competition, actively encourage eligible appli-  
12 cants to compete for such awards; and

13 “(B) seek input from chief executive offi-  
14 cers of States, chief State school officers, edu-  
15 cators, parents, superintendents, and other indi-  
16 viduals with knowledge of the needs of the re-  
17 gions to be served by the awards, regarding—

18 “(i) the needs in the regions for tech-  
19 nical assistance authorized under this title;  
20 and

21 “(ii) how such needs may be ad-  
22 dressed most effectively.

23 “(3) PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.—Before  
24 awarding a grant, contract, or cooperative agree-  
25 ment under this section, the Secretary shall establish

1 measurable performance indicators to be used to as-  
2 sess the ongoing progress and performance of the  
3 comprehensive centers to be established under this  
4 title that address paragraphs (1) through (3) of the  
5 performance management system described in sec-  
6 tion 185.

7 “(4) REQUIRED CONSIDERATION.—In deter-  
8 mining whether to award or enter into a grant, con-  
9 tract, or cooperative agreement under this section—

10 “(A) to an eligible applicant that pre-  
11 viously established a comprehensive center  
12 under this section, the Secretary shall—

13 “(i) consider the results of such cen-  
14 ter’s summative evaluation under section  
15 204(b) or, if not available, any interim  
16 evaluation results under section 204(c);  
17 and

18 “(ii) ensure that only centers deter-  
19 mined effective in the centers’ relevant in-  
20 terim or summative evaluations, as de-  
21 scribed in section 204, are eligible to re-  
22 ceive a new grant, contract, or cooperative  
23 agreement; and

24 “(B) to any eligible applicant, the Sec-  
25 retary shall ensure that such applicant has—



1 “(i) a history of effectiveness in pro-  
2 viding high-quality technical assistance;  
3 and

4 “(ii) the capacity to meet the measur-  
5 able performance indicators established  
6 under paragraph (3).

7 “(5) FLEXIBILITY IN COMPREHENSIVE CENTER  
8 NUMBER.—

9 “(A) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary, in  
10 consultation with the comprehensive center ad-  
11 visory boards described in subsection (f), may  
12 determine that establishing 17 comprehensive  
13 centers under this section is unnecessary, as re-  
14 quired in subsection (a)(1), and grant an alter-  
15 native number of awards or reorganize such  
16 centers, which may include organizing the cen-  
17 ters around content area instead of by the re-  
18 gions described in subsection (a)(3), if—

19 “(i) an insufficient number of such  
20 comprehensive centers are meeting the  
21 needs of the regions described in para-  
22 graphs (3) and (4) of subsection (a), as de-  
23 termined by the Secretary;

24 “(ii) an insufficient number of such  
25 comprehensive centers are meeting the

1           measurable performance indicators estab-  
2           lished under paragraph (3), as determined  
3           by the Secretary and the most recent in-  
4           terim or summative evaluation under sec-  
5           tion 204; or

6           “(iii) an insufficient number of eligi-  
7           ble applicants have the capacity to meet  
8           the measurable performance indicators es-  
9           tablished under paragraph (3), as deter-  
10          mined by the Secretary.

11          “(B) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall  
12          not use the determination authority described  
13          in subparagraph (A) to establish more than 17  
14          comprehensive centers under this section.

15          “(6) CONTINUATION OF AWARDS.—

16          “(A) CONTINUATION OF AWARDS.—The  
17          Secretary shall continue awards made to each  
18          eligible applicant for the support of comprehen-  
19          sive centers established under this section prior  
20          to the date of enactment of the Strengthening  
21          Education through Research Act, as such  
22          awards were in effect on the day before the  
23          date of enactment of the Strengthening Edu-  
24          cation through Research Act, for the duration

1 of those awards, in accordance with the terms  
2 and agreements of such awards.

3 “(B) RECOMPETITION.—Not later than the  
4 end of the period of the awards described in  
5 subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

6 “(i) hold a competition to make  
7 grants, contracts, or cooperative agree-  
8 ments under this section to eligible appli-  
9 cants, which may include eligible appli-  
10 cants that held awards described in sub-  
11 paragraph (A); and

12 “(ii) in determining whether to select  
13 an eligible applicant that held an award  
14 described in subparagraph (A) for an  
15 award under clause (i) of this subpara-  
16 graph, consider the results of the  
17 summative evaluation under section 204(b)  
18 of the center established with the eligible  
19 applicant’s award described in subpara-  
20 graph (A).

21 “(7) ELIGIBLE APPLICANT DEFINED.—For pur-  
22 poses of this section, the term ‘eligible applicant’  
23 means an entity described in paragraph (1).”;

24 (3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the  
25 following:

1 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—

2 “(1) SUBMISSION.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible appli-  
4 cant seeking a grant, contract, or cooperative  
5 agreement under this section shall submit an  
6 application at such time, in such manner, and  
7 containing such additional information as the  
8 Secretary may reasonably require.

9 “(B) INPUT.—To ensure that applications  
10 submitted under this paragraph are reflective of  
11 the needs of the regions to be served, each eligi-  
12 ble applicant submitting such an application  
13 shall seek input from State educational agencies  
14 and local educational agencies in the region  
15 that the award will serve, and other individuals  
16 with knowledge of the region’s needs.

17 “(2) PLAN.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each application sub-  
19 mitted under paragraph (1) shall contain a plan  
20 for the comprehensive center to be established  
21 under this section, which shall be updated,  
22 modified, and improved, as appropriate, on an  
23 ongoing basis, including by using the results of  
24 the center’s interim evaluation under section  
25 204(c).

1                   “(B) CONTENTS.—A plan described in  
2                   subparagraph (A) shall address—

3                   “(i) the priorities for technical assist-  
4                   ance established under section 207;

5                   “(ii) the needs of State educational  
6                   agencies and local educational agencies, on  
7                   an ongoing basis, using available State and  
8                   local data, including how the needs of  
9                   schools identified for improvement and  
10                  schools and local educational agencies with  
11                  a high percentage or number of low-income  
12                  students will be prioritized and served; and

13                  “(iii) if available, demonstrated sup-  
14                  port from State educational agencies and  
15                  local educational agencies, such as letters  
16                  of support or signed memoranda of under-  
17                  standing.

18                  “(3) NON-FEDERAL SUPPORT.—In conducting a  
19                  competition for grants, contracts, or cooperative  
20                  agreements under subsection (a), the Secretary shall  
21                  give priority to eligible applicants that will provide  
22                  a portion of non-Federal funds to maximize support  
23                  for activities of the comprehensive centers to be es-  
24                  tablished under this section.”;

1           (4) in subsection (d), by inserting “the number  
2           of low-performing schools in the region,” after “eco-  
3           nomically disadvantaged students,”;

4           (5) by striking subsections (e), (g), and (h);

5           (6) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-  
6           section (e);

7           (7) in subsection (e), as redesignated by para-  
8           graph (6)—

9           (A) in paragraph (1)—

10           (i) in the matter preceding subpara-  
11           graph (A), by striking “support dissemina-  
12           tion and technical assistance activities by”  
13           and inserting “support State educational  
14           agencies and local educational agencies, in-  
15           cluding by”;

16           (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

17           (I) in clause (i), by inserting  
18           “and other Federal education laws”  
19           before the semicolon;

20           (II) in clause (ii)—

21           (aa) in the matter preceding  
22           subclause (I), by striking “and  
23           assessment tools” and inserting  
24           “, assessment tools, and other  
25           educational strategies”;

1 (bb) in subclause (I), by  
2 striking “mathematics, science,”  
3 and inserting “mathematics and  
4 science, which may include com-  
5 puter science or engineering,”;  
6 and

7 (cc) in subclause (III), by  
8 inserting “, including innovative  
9 tools and methods” before the  
10 semicolon; and

11 (III) by striking clause (iii) and  
12 inserting the following:

13 “(iii) the replication and adaptation of  
14 exemplary practices and innovative meth-  
15 ods that have an evidence base of effective-  
16 ness; and”;

17 (iii) in subparagraph (B)—

18 (I) by inserting “, consistent with  
19 section 114(j),” after “dissemi-  
20 nating”; and

21 (II) by striking “(as described”  
22 and all that follows through “is lo-  
23 cated”; and

24 (iv) by striking subparagraph (C) and  
25 inserting the following:

1           “(C) ensuring activities carried out under  
2           this section are relevant and responsive to the  
3           needs of the region being served.”; and

4           (B) in paragraph (2)—

5                 (i) by inserting “, on an ongoing  
6                 basis,” after “this section shall”; and

7                 (ii) by striking “in which the center is  
8                 located” and inserting “served by the cen-  
9                 ter or other regional educational labora-  
10                tories or comprehensive centers, as appro-  
11                priate,”; and

12           (8) by adding at the end the following:

13           “(f) COMPREHENSIVE CENTER ADVISORY BOARD.—

14                 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Each comprehensive  
15                 center established under this section may establish  
16                 an advisory board that shall support the priorities of  
17                 such center.

18                 “(2) DUTIES.—Each advisory board established  
19                 under paragraph (1) shall advise the comprehensive  
20                 center—

21                         “(A) concerning the activities described in  
22                         subsection (e);

23                         “(B) on strategies for monitoring and ad-  
24                         dressing the educational needs of the region



1 being served on an ongoing basis and, as appro-  
2 priate, national needs;

3 “(C) on maintaining a high standard of  
4 quality in the performance of the center’s ac-  
5 tivities, especially in meeting the measurable  
6 performance indicators established under sub-  
7 section (b)(3);

8 “(D) on carrying out the center’s duties in  
9 a manner that promotes progress toward im-  
10 proving student academic achievement;

11 “(E) on the activities undertaken by re-  
12 gional educational laboratories of the region  
13 being served, other regional educational labora-  
14 tories, as appropriate, and other comprehensive  
15 centers to align the work of the laboratories  
16 and centers, reduce redundancy, and increase  
17 collaboration and resource-sharing in such ac-  
18 tivities; and

19 “(F) on joint activities, with other com-  
20 prehensive centers or regional educational lab-  
21 oratories from other regions, that would meet  
22 the needs of multiple regions.

23 “(3) COMPOSITION.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each advisory board  
25 shall—

1 “(i) not exceed 25 members;

2 “(ii) include the chief State school of-  
3 ficer, or such officer’s designee, or other  
4 State official, of States within the region  
5 served by the comprehensive center who  
6 have primary responsibility under State  
7 law for elementary and secondary edu-  
8 cation in the State;

9 “(iii) include representatives of local  
10 educational agencies, including rural and  
11 urban local educational agencies, that rep-  
12 resent the geographic diversity of the re-  
13 gion;

14 “(iv) include researchers; and

15 “(v) include not less than 1 represent-  
16 ative from the advisory board of a regional  
17 educational laboratory in the region being  
18 served by the comprehensive center.

19 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—The membership of  
20 each comprehensive center advisory board may  
21 include the following:

22 “(i) Representatives of institutions of  
23 higher education.

24 “(ii) Parents.

1                   “(iii) Practicing educators, including  
2                   classroom teachers, school leaders, admin-  
3                   istrators, school board members, and other  
4                   local school officials.

5                   “(iv) Representatives of business.

6                   “(v) Policymakers.

7                   “(4) RECOMMENDATIONS.—In choosing individ-  
8                   uals for membership on a comprehensive center advi-  
9                   sory board, the comprehensive center shall consult  
10                  with, and solicit recommendations from, the Sec-  
11                  retary, chief executive officers of States, chief State  
12                  school officers, local educational agencies, and other  
13                  education stakeholders within the applicable region.

14                  “(5) SPECIAL RULE.—The total number of  
15                  members on each board who are selected under  
16                  clauses (ii) and (iii) of paragraph (3)(A), in the ag-  
17                  gregate, shall exceed the total number of members  
18                  who are selected under paragraph (3)(B), collec-  
19                  tively.

20                  “(g) REPORT TO THE SECRETARY.—Each com-  
21                  prehensive center established under this section shall sub-  
22                  mit to the Secretary an annual report, at such time, in  
23                  such manner, and containing such information as the Sec-  
24                  retary may require, which shall include the following:

1           “(1) A summary of the center’s activities and  
2           products developed during the previous year.

3           “(2) A listing of the State educational agencies,  
4           local educational agencies, and schools the center as-  
5           sisted during the previous year.

6           “(3) Using the measurable performance indica-  
7           tors established under subsection (b)(3), a descrip-  
8           tion of how well the center is meeting educational  
9           needs of the region served by the center.

10          “(4) Any changes to the center’s plan under  
11          subsection (c)(2) to improve its activities in the re-  
12          maining years of the grant, contract, or cooperative  
13          agreement.”.

14   **SEC. 204. EVALUATIONS.**

15          Section 204 (20 U.S.C. 9603) is amended to read as  
16          follows:

17   **“SEC. 204. EVALUATIONS.**

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

19               “(1) provide for ongoing summative and interim  
20               evaluations described in subsections (b) and (c), re-  
21               spectively, of each of the comprehensive centers es-  
22               tablished under this title in carrying out the full  
23               range of duties of the center under this title; and

24               “(2) transmit the results of such evaluations,  
25               through appropriate means, to the appropriate con-

1       gressional committees, the Director of the Institute  
2       of Education Sciences, and the public.

3       “(b) SUMMATIVE EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall  
4       ensure each comprehensive center established under this  
5       title is evaluated by an independent entity at the end of  
6       the period of the grant, contract, or cooperative agreement  
7       that established such center, which shall—

8               “(1) be completed in a timely fashion;

9               “(2) assess how well the center is meeting the  
10       measurable performance indicators established under  
11       section 203(b)(3); and

12              “(3) consider the extent to which the center en-  
13       sures that the technical assistance of such center is  
14       relevant and useful to the work of State and local  
15       practitioners and policymakers.

16       “(c) INTERIM EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall en-  
17       sure that each comprehensive center established under this  
18       title is evaluated at the midpoint of the period of the  
19       grant, contract, or cooperative agreement that established  
20       such center, which shall—

21              “(1) assess how well such center is meeting the  
22       measurable performance indicators established under  
23       section 203(b)(3); and

1           “(2) be used to improve the effectiveness of  
2       such center in carrying out its plan under section  
3       203(c)(2).”.

4   **SEC. 205. EXISTING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS.**

5       (a) REPEAL.—Section 205 (20 U.S.C. 9604) is re-  
6   pealed.

7       (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
8   tents in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public  
9   Law 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking  
10   the item relating to section 205.

11   **SEC. 206. REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES.**

12       (a) REPEAL.—Section 206 (20 U.S.C. 9605) is re-  
13   pealed.

14       (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
15   tents in section 1 of the Act of November 5, 2002 (Public  
16   Law 107–279; 116 Stat. 1940) is amended by striking  
17   the item relating to section 206.

18   **SEC. 207. PRIORITIES.**

19       Section 207 (20 U.S.C. 9606) is amended—

20           (1) by inserting “Director and” before “Sec-  
21   retary shall establish”;

22           (2) by striking “of the Education Sciences Re-  
23   form Act of 2002”;

24           (3) by striking “of this title”;

1 (4) by striking “to address, taking onto account  
2 the regional assessments conducted under section  
3 206 and other” and inserting “, respectively, using  
4 the results of”; and

5 (5) by striking “relevant regional” and all that  
6 follows through “Secretary deems appropriate” and  
7 inserting “relevant regional and national surveys of  
8 educational needs”.

9 **SEC. 208. GRANT PROGRAM FOR STATEWIDE, LONGITU-**  
10 **DINAL DATA SYSTEMS.**

11 Section 208 (20 U.S.C. 9607) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) by inserting before the period at the  
14 end the following: “, the Higher Education Act  
15 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), and the Indi-  
16 viduals with Disabilities Education Act (20  
17 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.)”; and

18 (B) by adding at the end the following:  
19 “State educational agencies receiving a grant  
20 under this section may provide subgrants to  
21 local educational agencies to improve the capac-  
22 ity of local educational agencies to carry out the  
23 activities authorized under this section.”;

24 (2) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), and  
25 (e) as subsections (d), (e), and (g), respectively;

1           (3) by inserting after subsection (b), the fol-  
2       lowing:

3       “(c) PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.—Before award-  
4       ing a grant under this section, the Secretary shall estab-  
5       lish measurable performance indicators—

6           “(1) to be used to assess the ongoing progress  
7       and performance of State educational agencies re-  
8       ceiving a grant under this section; and

9           “(2) that address paragraphs (1) through (3) of  
10      the performance management system described in  
11      section 185.”;

12       (4) in subsection (d), as redesignated by para-  
13      graph (2)—

14           (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “, pro-  
15      motes linkages across States,”;

16           (B) in paragraph (2)—

17           (i) in the matter preceding subpara-  
18      graph (A), by inserting “supports school  
19      improvement and” after “data that”;

20           (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
21      “and other reporting requirements and  
22      close achievement gaps; and” and inserting  
23      “ and other reporting requirements, close  
24      achievement gaps, and improve teaching  
25      and school leadership;”;



1 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
2 “and close achievement gaps” and by in-  
3 serting “, close achievement gaps, and im-  
4 prove teaching and school leadership; and”;  
5 and

6 (iv) by inserting after subparagraph  
7 (B) the following:

8 “(C) to align statewide, longitudinal data  
9 systems from early education through postsec-  
10 ondary education (including pre-service prepa-  
11 ration programs), and the workforce, consistent  
12 with privacy protections under section 183;”;  
13 and

14 (C) by striking paragraph (3) and insert-  
15 ing the following:

16 “(3) ensures the protection of student privacy,  
17 and includes a review of how State educational agen-  
18 cies, local educational agencies, and others that will  
19 have access to the statewide, longitudinal data sys-  
20 tems under this section will adhere to Federal pri-  
21 vacy laws and protections, consistent with section  
22 183, in the building, maintenance, and use of such  
23 data systems;

24 “(4) ensures State educational agencies receiv-  
25 ing a grant under this section support professional

1 development that builds the capacity of teachers and  
2 school leaders to use data effectively; and

3 “(5) gives priority to State educational agencies  
4 that leverage the use of statewide, longitudinal data  
5 systems to improve student achievement and growth,  
6 including such State educational agencies that—

7 “(A) meet the voluntary standards and  
8 guidelines described in section 153(a)(5);

9 “(B) define the roles of State educational  
10 agencies, local educational agencies, and others  
11 in providing timely access to data under the  
12 statewide, longitudinal data systems, consistent  
13 with privacy protections in section 183; and

14 “(C) demonstrate the capacity to share  
15 teacher and school leader performance data, in-  
16 cluding student achievement and growth data,  
17 with local educational agencies and teacher and  
18 school leader preparation programs.”;

19 (5) by inserting after subsection (e), as redesign-  
20 nated by paragraph (2), the following:

21 “(f) RENEWAL OF AWARDS.—The Secretary may  
22 renew a grant awarded to a State educational agency  
23 under this section for a period not to exceed 3 years, if  
24 the State educational agency has demonstrated progress

1 on the measurable performance indicators established  
2 under subsection (c).”; and

3 (6) by striking subsection (g), as redesignated  
4 by paragraph (2), and inserting the following:

5 “(g) REPORTS.—

6 “(1) FIRST REPORT.—Not later than 1 year  
7 after the date of enactment of the Strengthening  
8 Education through Research Act, the Secretary shall  
9 prepare and make publicly available a report on the  
10 implementation and effectiveness of the activities  
11 carried out by State educational agencies receiving a  
12 grant under this section, including—

13 “(A) information on progress in the devel-  
14 opment and use of statewide, longitudinal data  
15 systems described in this section;

16 “(B) information on best practices and  
17 areas for improvement in such development and  
18 use; and

19 “(C) how the State educational agencies  
20 are adhering to Federal privacy laws and pro-  
21 tections in the building, maintenance, and use  
22 of such data systems.

23 “(2) SUCCEEDING REPORTS.—Every succeeding  
24 3 years after the report is made publicly available  
25 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall prepare

1       and make publicly available a report on the imple-  
2       mentation and effectiveness of the activities carried  
3       out by State educational agencies receiving a grant  
4       under this section, including—

5               “(A) information on the requirements of  
6       subparagraphs (A) through (C) of paragraph  
7       (1); and

8               “(B) the progress, in the aggregate, State  
9       educational agencies are making on the measur-  
10      able performance indicators established under  
11      subsection (c).”.

12   **SEC. 209. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13       Section 209 (20 U.S.C. 9608) is amended to read as  
14   follows:

15   **“SEC. 209. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16       “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
17   this title—

18               “(1) for fiscal year 2015, \$82,984,000;

19               “(2) for fiscal year 2016, \$84,643,680;

20               “(3) for fiscal year 2017, \$86,336,554;

21               “(4) for fiscal year 2018, \$88,063,285;

22               “(5) for fiscal year 2019, \$89,736,487; and

23               “(6) for fiscal year 2020, \$90,633,852.”.

1 **TITLE III—NATIONAL ASSESS-**  
2 **MENT OF EDUCATIONAL**  
3 **PROGRESS**

4 **SEC. 301. REFERENCES.**

5 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in  
6 this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms  
7 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-  
8 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a  
9 section or other provision of the National Assessment of  
10 Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9621  
11 et seq.).

12 **SEC. 302. NATIONAL ASSESSMENT GOVERNING BOARD.**

13 Section 302 (20 U.S.C. 9621) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “shall formu-  
15 late policy guidelines” and inserting “shall oversee  
16 and set policies, in a manner consistent with sub-  
17 section (e) and accepted professional standards,”;

18 (2) in subsection (b)(1)(L)—

19 (A) by striking “principals” and inserting  
20 “leaders”; and

21 (B) by striking “principal” both places it  
22 appears and inserting “leader”;

23 (3) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (4);

24 (4) in subsection (d)—

25 (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting  
2 “the Assessment Board after consultation  
3 with” before “organizations”; and

4 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

5 (I) by striking “Each organiza-  
6 tion submitting nominations to the  
7 Secretary with” and inserting “With”;  
8 and

9 (II) by inserting “, the Assess-  
10 ment Board” after “particular va-  
11 cancy”; and

12 (B) in paragraph (2)—

13 (i) by striking “that each organization  
14 described in paragraph (1)(A) submit addi-  
15 tional nominations” and inserting “addi-  
16 tional nominations from the Assessment  
17 Board or each organization described in  
18 paragraph (1)(A)”; and

19 (ii) by striking “such organization”  
20 and inserting “the Assessment Board”;  
21 and

22 (5) in subsection (e)(1)—

23 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

1 (i) by inserting “in consultation with  
2 the Commissioner for Education Statis-  
3 tics,” before “select”;

4 (ii) by inserting “and grades or ages”  
5 before “to be”; and

6 (iii) by inserting “, and determine the  
7 year in which such assessments will be  
8 conducted” after “assessed”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting  
10 “school leaders,” after “teachers,”;

11 (C) in subparagraph (E), by striking “de-  
12 sign” and inserting “provide input on”;

13 (D) by striking “and” at the end of sub-  
14 paragraph (I);

15 (E) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as  
16 subparagraph (K);

17 (F) by inserting after subparagraph (I),  
18 the following:

19 “(J) provide input to the Director on an-  
20 nual budget requests for the National Assess-  
21 ment of Educational Progress; and”;

22 (G) in subparagraph (K), as redesignated  
23 by subparagraph (E)—

24 (i) by striking “plan and execute the  
25 initial public release of”; and

1 (ii) by inserting “release the initial”  
2 before “National”; and  
3 (H) in the matter following subparagraph  
4 (K), as redesignated by subparagraph (E), by  
5 striking “subparagraph (J)” and inserting  
6 “subparagraph (K)”.

7 **SEC. 303. NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL**  
8 **PROGRESS.**

9 Section 303 (20 U.S.C. 9622) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “with the ad-  
11 vice of the Assessment Board established under sec-  
12 tion 302” and inserting “in a manner consistent  
13 with accepted professional standards and the policies  
14 set forth by the Assessment Board under section  
15 302(a)”;

16 (2) in subsection (b)(2)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (D), by inserting  
18 “and consistent with section 302(e)(1)(A)”  
19 after “resources allow”;

20 (B) by striking “and” at the end of sub-  
21 paragraph (G);

22 (C) in subparagraph (H), by striking the  
23 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

24 (D) by adding at the end the following:



1           “(I) determine, after taking into account  
2           section 302(e)(1)(I), the content of initial and  
3           subsequent reports of all assessments author-  
4           ized under this section and ensure that such re-  
5           ports are valid and reliable.”;

6           (3) in subsection (c)(2)—

7                 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “of  
8           Education” after “Secretary”; and

9                 (B) in subparagraph (D)—

10                         (i) by striking “Chairman of the  
11           House” before “Committee on Education”;

12                         (ii) by inserting “of the House of Rep-  
13           resentatives” after “Workforce”;

14                         (iii) by striking “Chairman of the  
15           Senate” before “Committee on Health”;

16           and

17                         (iv) by inserting “of the Senate” after  
18           “Pensions”;

19           (4) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting before the  
20           period, the following: “, except as required under  
21           section 1112(b)(1)(F) of the Elementary and Sec-  
22           ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
23           6312(b)(1)(F))”;

24           (5) in subsection (e)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “or age”;

2 and

3 (B) in paragraph (2)—

4 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

5 (I) by striking “shall” and all  
6 that follows through “be” and insert  
7 “shall be”;

8 (II) by redesignating subclauses  
9 (I) and (II) as clauses (i) and (ii), re-  
10 spectively (and by moving the margins  
11 2 ems to the left); and

12 (III) in clause (ii), as redesign-  
13 nated by subclause (II), by striking “,  
14 or the age of the students, as the case  
15 may be”;

16 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

17 (I) by striking “After the deter-  
18 minations described in subparagraph  
19 (A), devising” and inserting “The As-  
20 sessment Board shall, in making the  
21 determination described in subpara-  
22 graph (A), use”; and

23 (II) by inserting “, providing for  
24 the active participation of teachers,  
25 school leaders, curriculum specialists,

1 local school administrators, parents,  
2 and concerned members of the general  
3 public” after “approach”; and  
4 (iii) in subparagraph (D), by inserting  
5 “Assessment” before “Board”; and  
6 (6) in subsection (g)(2)—  
7 (A) in the heading, by striking “AFFAIRS”  
8 and inserting “EDUCATION”; and  
9 (B) by striking “Affairs” and inserting  
10 “Education”.

11 **SEC. 304. DEFINITIONS.**

12 Section 304 (20 U.S.C. 9623) is amended by striking  
13 paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The terms ‘elementary  
15 school’, ‘local educational agency’, and ‘secondary  
16 school’ have the meanings given those terms in sec-  
17 tion 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
18 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

19 “(2) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means  
20 the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences.

21 “(3) SCHOOL LEADER.—The term ‘school lead-  
22 er’ has the meaning given the term in section 102.

23 “(4) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means  
24 the Secretary of Education.

1           “(5) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of  
2           the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the  
3           Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.”.

4   **SEC. 305. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5           Section 305(a) (20 U.S.C. 9624(a)) is amended to  
6   read as follows:

7           “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-  
8   propriated—

9           “(1) for fiscal year 2015—

10           “(A) \$8,235,000 to carry out section 302  
11           (relating to the National Assessment Governing  
12           Board); and

13           “(B) \$132,000,000 to carry out section  
14           303 (relating to the National Assessment of  
15           Educational Progress);

16           “(2) for fiscal year 2016—

17           “(A) \$8,399,700 to carry out section 302  
18           (relating to the National Assessment Governing  
19           Board); and

20           “(B) \$134,640,000 to carry out section  
21           303 (relating to the National Assessment of  
22           Educational Progress);

23           “(3) for fiscal year 2017—

1           “(A) \$8,567,694 to carry out section 302  
2           (relating to the National Assessment Governing  
3           Board); and

4           “(B) \$137,332,800 to carry out section  
5           303 (relating to the National Assessment of  
6           Educational Progress);

7           “(4) for fiscal year 2018—

8           “(A) \$8,739,048 to carry out section 302  
9           (relating to the National Assessment Governing  
10          Board); and

11          “(B) \$140,079,456 to carry out section  
12          303 (relating to the National Assessment of  
13          Educational Progress);

14          “(5) for fiscal year 2019—

15          “(A) \$8,905,090 to carry out section 302  
16          (relating to the National Assessment Governing  
17          Board); and

18          “(B) \$142,740,966 to carry out section  
19          303 (relating to the National Assessment of  
20          Educational Progress); and

21          “(6) for fiscal year 2020—

22          “(A) \$8,994,141 to carry out section 302  
23          (relating to the National Assessment Governing  
24          Board); and

1 “(B) \$144,168,376 to carry out section  
2 303 (relating to the National Assessment of  
3 Educational Progress).”.

4      **TITLE IV—EVALUATION PLAN**

**5 SEC. 401. RESEARCH AND EVALUATION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Institute of Education Sciences shall be the primary entity for conducting research on and evaluations of Federal education programs within the Department of Education to ensure the rigor and independence of such research and evaluation.

11 (b) FLEXIBLE AUTHORITY.—

(1) RESERVATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. et seq. 6301 et seq.) related to evaluation, the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences—

18 (A) may, for purposes of carrying out the  
19 activities described in paragraph (2)(B)—

(i) reserve not more than 0.5 percent of the total amount of funds appropriated for each program authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), other than part A of title I of such Act (20 U.S.C.

1                   6311 et seq.) and section 1501 of such Act  
2                   (20 U.S.C. 6491); and

3                   (ii) reserve, in the manner described  
4                   in subparagraph (B), an amount equal to  
5                   not more than 0.1 percent of the total  
6                   amount of funds appropriated for—

7                   (I) part A of title I of the Ele-  
8                   mentary and Secondary Education  
9                   Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.);  
10                  and

11                  (II) section 1501 of such Act (20  
12                  U.S.C. 6491); and

13                  (B) in reserving the amount described in  
14                  subparagraph (A)(ii)—

15                  (i) shall reserve up to the total  
16                  amount of funds appropriated for section  
17                  1501 of the Elementary and Secondary  
18                  Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6491);  
19                  and

20                  (ii) may, in a case in which the total  
21                  amount of funds appropriated for such sec-  
22                  tion 1501 (20 U.S.C. 6491) is less than  
23                  the amount described in subparagraph  
24                  (A)(ii), reserve the amount of funds appro-  
25                  priated for part A of title I of the Elemen-

1            tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965  
2            (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.) that is needed for  
3            the sum of the total amount of funds ap-  
4            propriated for such section 1501 (20  
5            U.S.C. 6491) and such amount of funds  
6            appropriated for such part A of title I (20  
7            U.S.C. 6311 et seq.) to equal the amount  
8            described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

9            (2) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—If funds are re-  
10          served under paragraph (1)—

11            (A) neither the Secretary of Education nor  
12          the Director of the Institute of Education  
13          Sciences shall—

14            (i) carry out evaluations under section  
15          1501 of the Elementary and Secondary  
16          Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6491);  
17          or

18            (ii) reserve funds for evaluation activi-  
19          ties under section 3111(c)(1)(C) of such  
20          Act (20 U.S.C. 6821); and

21            (B) the Secretary of Education, in con-  
22          sultation with the Director of the Institute of  
23          Education Sciences—

24            (i) shall use the funds reserved under  
25          paragraph (1) to carry out high-quality



1 evaluations (consistent with the require-  
2 ments of section 173(a) of the Education  
3 Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C.  
4 9563(a)), as amended by this Act, and the  
5 evaluation plan described in subsection (c)  
6 of this section) of programs authorized  
7 under the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
8 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et  
9 seq.); and

10 (ii) may use the funds reserved under  
11 paragraph (1) to—

12 (I) increase the usefulness of the  
13 evaluations conducted under clause (i)  
14 to promote continuous improvement of  
15 programs under the Elementary and  
16 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
17 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.); or

18 (II) assist grantees of such pro-  
19 grams in collecting and analyzing data  
20 and other activities related to con-  
21 ducting high-quality evaluations under  
22 clause (i).

23 (3) DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary of Edu-  
24 cation or the Director of the Institute of Education  
25 Sciences shall disseminate evaluation findings, con-

1       sistent with section 114(j) of the Education Sciences  
2       Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9514(j)), as amend-  
3       ed by this Act, of evaluations carried out under  
4       paragraph (2)(B)(i).

5               (4) CONSOLIDATION.—The Secretary of Edu-  
6       cation, in consultation with the Director of the Insti-  
7       tute of Education Sciences—

8                       (A) may consolidate the funds reserved  
9                       under paragraph (1) for purposes of carrying  
10                      out the activities under paragraph (2)(B); and

11                      (B) shall not be required to evaluate under  
12                      paragraph (2)(B)(i) each program authorized  
13                      under the Elementary and Secondary Education  
14                      Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) each year.

15       (c) EVALUATION PLAN.—The Director of the Insti-  
16       tute of Education Sciences, in consultation with the Sec-  
17       retary of Education, shall, on a biennial basis, develop,  
18       submit to Congress, and make publicly available an eval-  
19       uation plan, that—

20                      (1) describes the specific activities that will be  
21                      carried out under subsection (b)(2)(B) for the 2-year  
22                      period applicable to the plan, and the timelines of  
23                      such activities;

1           (2) contains the results of the activities carried  
2       out under subsection (b)(2)(B) for the most recent  
3       2-year period; and

4           (3) describes how programs authorized under  
5       the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
6       1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) will be regularly eval-  
7       uated.

8       (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
9       tion shall be construed to affect section 173(b) of the Edu-  
10      cation Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9563(b)),  
11      as amended by this Act.