

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. HICKENLOOPER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Families  
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT**  
7 **AMENDMENTS.**

8 (a) PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY OF COMMUNITY-  
9 BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE  
10 AND NEGLECT.—Section 201 of the Child Abuse Preven-  
11 tion and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116) is amended—

1           (1) in subsection (a), by amending paragraph  
2           (2) to read as follows:

3           “(2) to increase access to a continuum of com-  
4           munity-based and prevention-focused programs and  
5           activities designed to strengthen and support fami-  
6           lies to prevent child abuse and neglect, among di-  
7           verse populations, in order to help families develop  
8           protective factors linked to the prevention of child  
9           abuse and neglect.”; and

10           (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

11           (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)  
12           through (H) as subparagraphs (B) through (I),  
13           respectively; and

14           (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
15           (A), by striking “(1) developing, operating,”  
16           and all that follows through “existing strengths  
17           that—” and inserting the following:

18           “(1) providing community-based and preven-  
19           tion-focused programs and activities designed to  
20           strengthen and support families to prevent child  
21           abuse and neglect in order to help families build pro-  
22           tective factors linked to the prevention of child abuse  
23           and neglect that—

24           “(A) are accessible, effective, culturally-re-  
25           sponsive, and build upon existing strengths;”.

1 (b) APPLICATION.—Section 204 of the Child Abuse  
2 Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116d) is  
3 amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (11), by striking “; and” and  
5 inserting a semicolon;

6 (2) in paragraph (12), by striking the period  
7 and inserting “; and”; and

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

9 “(13) a description of how the lead entity will  
10 use grant funds received under this title to provide  
11 community-based and prevention-focused programs  
12 and activities designed to strengthen and support  
13 families to prevent child abuse and neglect, in a  
14 manner that—

15 “(A) helps families build protective factors  
16 that are linked to the prevention of child abuse  
17 and neglect, including knowledge of parenting  
18 and child development, parental resilience, so-  
19 cial connections, time-limited and need-based  
20 concrete support, and social and emotional de-  
21 velopment of children;

22 “(B) is trauma-informed, culturally-re-  
23 sponsive, and takes into consideration the as-  
24 sets and needs of communities that the entity  
25 serves; and

1           “(C) promotes coordination between local  
2           programs, public agencies, and relevant private  
3           entities to develop and expand a continuum of  
4           primary preventive supports that promote child,  
5           parent, and family well-being, with a focus on  
6           increasing access to services for diverse popu-  
7           lations.”.

8           (c) LOCAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Section  
9           205(a)(3)(A) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treat-  
10          ment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116e(a)(3)(A)) is amended—

11           (1) by redesignating clauses (ii) through (iv) as  
12          clauses (iii) through (v), respectively; and

13           (2) by striking clause (i) and inserting the fol-  
14          lowing:

15           “(i) parent support and education pro-  
16          grams that build protective factors linked to the  
17          prevention of child abuse and neglect;

18           “(ii) mutual support and self help, and  
19          parent leadership services;”.

20          (d) DEFINITIONS.—Section 208 of the Child Abuse  
21          Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5116h) is  
22          amended—

23           (1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
24          graph (4); and

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

3           “(3) PROTECTIVE FACTORS LINKED TO THE  
4           PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.—The  
5           term ‘protective factors linked to the prevention of  
6           child abuse and neglect’ means evidence-based or  
7           evidence-informed factors that have been dem-  
8           onstrated to ensure that families are more likely to  
9           be healthy and strong and less likely to experience  
10          child abuse and neglect. Such factors include knowl-  
11          edge of parenting and child development, parental  
12          resilience, social connections, concrete supports in  
13          times of need, and support for the social and emo-  
14          tional development of children.”.