

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1925

To reauthorize programs under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act and the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2003

Mr. GINGREY (for himself, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. PORTER, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. BURNS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To reauthorize programs under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act and the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

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 "Runaway, Homeless,
5 and Missing Children Protection Act".

1 **TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO RUN-**
2 **AWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH**
3 **ACT**

4 **SEC. 101. AMENDMENT TO FINDINGS.**

5 Section 302 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 5701) is amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 302. FINDINGS.**

8 “The Congress finds that—

9 “(1) juveniles who have become homeless or
10 who leave and remain away from home without pa-
11 rental permission, are at risk of developing, and
12 have a disproportionate share of, serious health, be-
13 havioral, and emotional problems because they lack
14 sufficient resources to obtain care and may live on
15 the street for extended periods thereby endangering
16 themselves and creating a substantial law enforce-
17 ment problem for communities in which they con-
18 gregate;

19 “(2) many such young people, because of their
20 age and situation, are urgently in need of temporary
21 shelter and services, including services that are lin-
22 guistically appropriate and acknowledge the environ-
23 ment of youth seeking these services;

24 “(3) in view of the interstate nature of the
25 problem, it is the responsibility of the Federal Gov-

1 ernment to develop an accurate national reporting
2 system to report the problem, and to assist in the
3 development of an effective system of care (including
4 preventive and aftercare services, emergency shelter
5 services, extended residential shelter, and street out-
6 reach services) outside the welfare system and the
7 law enforcement system;

8 “(4) to make a successful transition to adult-
9 hood, runaway youth, homeless youth, and other
10 street youth need opportunities to complete high
11 school or earn a general equivalency degree, learn
12 job skills, and obtain employment; and

13 “(5) improved coordination and collaboration
14 between the Federal programs that serve runaway
15 and homeless youth are necessary for the develop-
16 ment of a long-term strategy for responding to the
17 needs of this population.”.

18 **SEC. 102. RECOGNITION OF STATE LAW RELATING TO CA-**
19 **PACITY LIMITATION ON ELIGIBLE RUNAWAY**
20 **AND HOMELESS YOUTH CENTERS.**

21 Section 312(b)(2)(A) of the Runaway and Homeless
22 Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5712(b)(2)(A)) is amended by in-
23 serting after “youth” the following: “, except where the
24 applicant assures that the State where it is located has
25 a State or local law or regulation that requires a higher

1 maximum to comply with licensure requirements for chil-
2 dren and youth serving facilities”.

3 **SEC. 103. MATERNITY GROUP HOMES.**

4 (a) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 322(a)(1) of the Runaway
5 and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–2(a)(1)) is
6 amended—

7 (1) by inserting after “group homes,” the fol-
8 lowing: “including maternity group homes,”; and

9 (2) by inserting after “use of credit,” the fol-
10 lowing: “parenting skills (as appropriate),”.

11 (b) DEFINITION.—Section 322 of the Runaway and
12 Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–2) is amended by
13 adding at the end the following new subsection:

14 “(c) DEFINITION.—In this part, the term ‘maternity
15 group home’ means a community-based, adult-supervised
16 transitional youth living arrangement that provides preg-
17 nant or parenting teens and their children with a sup-
18 portive and supervised living arrangement in which such
19 pregnant or parenting teens are required to learn par-
20 enting skills, including child development, family budg-
21 eting, health and nutrition, and other skills to promote
22 their long-term economic independence in order to ensure
23 the well-being of their children.”.

1 **SEC. 104. LIMITED EXTENSION OF 540-DAY SHELTER ELIGI-**
2 **BILITY PERIOD.**

3 Section 322(a)(2) of the Runaway and Homeless
4 Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–2(a)(2)) is amended by in-
5 serting after “days” the following: “, except that a youth
6 in a program under this part who is under the age of 18
7 years on the last day of the 540-day period may, if other-
8 wise qualified for the program, remain in the program
9 until the earlier of the youth’s 18th birthday or the 180th
10 day after the end of the 540-day period”.

11 **SEC. 105. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

12 (a) OTHER THAN PART E.—Section 388(a)(1) of the
13 Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C.
14 5751(a)(1)) is amended by striking “years 2000, 2001,
15 2002, and 2003” and inserting “year 2003, \$105,000,000
16 for fiscal year 2004, and such sums as may be necessary
17 for fiscal years 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008”.

18 (b) PART E.—Section 388(a)(4) of the Runaway and
19 Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5751(a)(4)) is amended
20 by striking “2000, 2001, 2002, and” and inserting “,
21 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008”.

22 (c) PART B ALLOCATION.—Section 388(a)(2)(B) of
23 the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C.
24 5751(a)(2)(B)) is amended by striking “not less than 20
25 percent, and not more than 30 percent” and inserting “45
26 percent and, in those fiscal years in which continuation

1 grant obligations and the quality and number of appli-
 2 cants for parts A and B warrant, not more than 55 per-
 3 cent”.

4 **SEC. 106. PART A PLAN COORDINATION ASSURANCES.**

5 Section 312(b)(4)(B) of the Runaway and Homeless
 6 Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5712(b)(4)(B)) is amended by strik-
 7 ing “personnel” and all that follows through the semicolon
 8 and inserting “McKinney-Vento school district liaisons,
 9 designated under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKin-
 10 ney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11432
 11 (g)(1)(J)(ii)), to assure that runaway and homeless youth
 12 are provided information about the educational services
 13 available to such youth under subtitle B of title VII of
 14 that Act;”.

15 **SEC. 107. PART B PLAN COORDINATION AGREEMENT.**

16 Section 322(a) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth
 17 Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–2(a)) is amended—

18 (1) by striking “and” after the semicolon at the
 19 end of paragraph (13);

20 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
 21 graph (14) and inserting “; and”; and

22 (3) by adding at the end the following new
 23 paragraph:

24 “(15) to coordinate services with McKinney-
 25 Vento school district liaisons, designated under sec-

1 tion 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Home-
2 less Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)),
3 to assure that runaway and homeless youth are pro-
4 vided information about the educational services
5 available to such youth under subtitle B of title VII
6 of that Act.”.

7 **SEC. 108. PART B PLAN DEVELOPMENT.**

8 Section 322(a)(7) of the Runaway and Homeless
9 Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5714–2(a)(7)) is amended to read
10 as follows:

11 “(7) to develop an adequate plan to ensure
12 proper referral of homeless youth to social service,
13 law enforcement, educational (including post-sec-
14 ondary education), vocational, training (including
15 services and programs for youth available under the
16 Workforce Investment Act of 1998), welfare (includ-
17 ing programs under the Personal Responsibility and
18 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996), legal
19 service, and health care programs and to help inte-
20 grate and coordinate such services for youths;”.

21 **SEC. 109. REPORT ON STRATEGIES TO END YOUTH HOME-**
22 **LESSNESS.**

23 Not later than 2 years after the date of the enact-
24 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human
25 Services, in consultation with the United States Inter-

1 agency Council on Homelessness, shall submit to the Con-
2 gress a report on strategies to end youth homelessness.

3 **SEC. 110. EVALUATION ON HOUSING SERVICES AND STRAT-**
4 **EGIES.**

5 Section 386 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 5732) is amended by adding at the end the
7 following new subsection:

8 “(c) EVALUATION ON HOUSING SERVICES AND
9 STRATEGIES.—The Secretary shall conduct an evaluation
10 of such programs funded under part B of this Act to re-
11 port on long-term housing outcomes for youth 12 to 18
12 months after exiting the program. The evaluation of any
13 such program should provide information on housing serv-
14 ices available to youth upon exiting the program, including
15 assistance in locating and retaining permanent housing
16 and referrals to other residential programs. In addition,
17 the evaluation should identify housing models and place-
18 ment strategies that prevent future episodes of homeless-
19 ness.”.

20 **SEC. 111. AGE LIMIT FOR HOMELESS YOUTH.**

21 Section 387(3)(A)(i) of the Runaway and Homeless
22 Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a(3)(A)(i)) is amended by in-
23 serting after “of age” the following: “, or, in the case of
24 a youth seeking shelter in a center under part A, not more
25 than 18 years of age”.

1 **TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO**
2 **MISSING CHILDREN’S ASSIST-**
3 **ANCE ACT**

4 **SEC. 201. AMENDMENT TO FINDINGS.**

5 Section 402 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 5771) is amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 402. FINDINGS.**

8 “The Congress finds that—

9 “(1) each year thousands of children are ab-
10 ducted or removed from the control of a parent hav-
11 ing legal custody without such parent’s consent,
12 under circumstances which immediately place the
13 child in grave danger;

14 “(2) many missing children are at great risk of
15 both physical harm and sexual exploitation;

16 “(3) in many cases, parents and local law en-
17 forcement officials have neither the resources nor
18 the expertise to mount expanded search efforts;

19 “(4) abducted children are frequently moved
20 from one locality to another, requiring the coopera-
21 tion and coordination of local, State, and Federal
22 law enforcement efforts;

23 “(5) the National Center for Missing and Ex-
24 ploited Children—

1 “(A) serves as the national resource center
2 and clearinghouse;

3 “(B) works in partnership with the De-
4 partment of Justice, the Federal Bureau of In-
5 vestigation, the Department of the Treasury,
6 the Department of State, and many other agen-
7 cies in the effort to find missing children and
8 prevent child victimization; and

9 “(C) operates a national and increasingly
10 worldwide network, linking the Center online
11 with each of the missing children clearinghouses
12 operated by the 50 States, the District of Co-
13 lumbia, and Puerto Rico, as well as with Scot-
14 land Yard in the United Kingdom, the Royal
15 Canadian Mounted Police, INTERPOL head-
16 quarters in Lyon, France, and others, which en-
17 able the Center to transmit images and infor-
18 mation regarding missing children to law en-
19 forcement across the United States and around
20 the world instantly.”.

21 **SEC. 202. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 (a) ANNUAL GRANT TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR
23 MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN.—Section 404(b)(2)
24 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
25 5773(b)(2)) is amended by striking “each of fiscal years

1 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003” and inserting “fiscal year
2 2003 and \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004
3 through 2008”.

4 (b) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a) of the Missing
5 Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5777(a)) is amended
6 by striking “2000 through 2003” and inserting “2003
7 through 2008”.

8 **SEC. 203. CREATION OF CYBER TIPLINE.**

9 Section 404(b)(1) of the Missing Children’s Assist-
10 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5773(b)(1)) is amended—

11 (1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and”
12 after the semicolon at the end;

13 (2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period
14 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

15 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
16 paragraph:

17 “(H) coordinate the operation of a cyber
18 tipline to provide online users an effective
19 means of reporting Internet-related child sexual
20 exploitation in the areas of—

21 “(i) distribution of child pornography;

22 “(ii) online enticement of children for
23 sexual acts; and

24 “(iii) child prostitution.”.

○