

HR 1429

Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

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Law: 110-134 (Enacted Dec 12, 2007)

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Sponsor

Name: Rep. Kildee, Dale E. [D-MI-5]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MI • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (26 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Altmire, Jason [D-PA-4]	D · PA		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Castle, Michael N. [R-DE-At Large]	R · DE		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-11]	D · NY		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Ehlers, Vernon J. [R-MI-3]	R · MI		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]	D · TX		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Loebsack, David [D-IA-2]	D · IA		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. McCarthy, Carolyn [D-NY-4]	D · NY		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-39]	D · CA		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Sestak, Joe [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Shea-Porter, Carol [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Wu, David [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Mar 9, 2007
Rep. Crowley, Joseph [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Mar 22, 2007
Rep. Davis, Susan A. [D-CA-53]	D · CA		Mar 22, 2007
Rep. Emanuel, Rahm [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Mar 22, 2007
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Mar 22, 2007
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Mar 22, 2007
Rep. Murphy, Tim [R-PA-18]	R · PA		Mar 22, 2007
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-13]	D · NJ		Mar 22, 2007
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Mar 22, 2007
Rep. Woolsey, Lynn C. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Mar 22, 2007

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Reported By	Mar 23, 2007

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HCONRES 258	Related bill	Nov 14, 2007: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
110 HRES 813	Procedurally related	Nov 14, 2007: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
110 HRES 348	Procedurally related	May 2, 2007: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
110 S 556	Companion bill	Apr 10, 2007: By Senator Kennedy from Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions filed written report. Report No. 110-49.

(This measure has not been amended since the Conference Report was filed in the House on November 14, 2007. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 - Amends the Head Start Act (the Act) to revise and reauthorize Head Start programs.

(Sec. 2) Includes among the aims of Head Start programs children's growth in language, literacy, mathematics, science, social and emotional functioning, creative arts, physical skills, and approaches to learning.

(Sec. 3) Includes community-based organizations and financial literacy training within the definitions of Head Start delegate agencies and family literacy services, respectively. Adds definitions of Head Start deficiencies, homeless children, institutions of higher education, interrater reliability, limited English proficient (LEP) children, principles of scientific research, professional development for teachers and staff, scientifically valid research, and unresolved areas of noncompliance.

Removes Micronesia and the Marshall Islands from the list of program participants.

(Sec. 4) Authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) to provide financial assistance to Head Start agencies for five-year periods.

(Sec. 5) Authorizes appropriations for Head Start programs for FY2008-FY2012.

(Sec. 6) Sets forth allotment requirements, as well as limitations on and authorized uses of Head Start funds.

Reserves from such funds: (1) amounts for state, Indian, migrant and seasonal, and territorial Head Start programs that are equal to the base amounts such programs received for the prior fiscal year; (2) amounts for collaborative grants at the FY2007 level; (3) at least 2.5% and no more than 3% for training and technical assistance, at least 20% of which is to be used to provide such assistance to Early Head Start programs; and (4) specified monetary amounts for research, demonstration, and evaluation activities and for discretionary payments. Requires the use of remaining funds for cost of living increases for each Head Start agency and the provision of specified amounts to Indian and migrant and seasonal Head Start programs to increase enrollment.

Requires that after at least 20% of of the training and technical assistance funds are reserved for Early Head Start programs: (1) at least 50% of such remaining funds be available for the direct use of Head Start agencies; (2) at least 25% be available to the Secretary for state-based or national training and technical assistance systems; and (3) the remainder be available to the Secretary to assist local Early Head Start entities meet and exceed program performance standards.

Requires any additional remaining funds to be used for specified Head Start quality improvement and expansion activities.

Provides funding for the Republic of Palau through FY2009 and, if legislation approving a new agreement regarding assistance to Palau is not enacted by the end of FY2009, through FY2012.

Directs the Secretary to establish policies and procedures assuring that: (1) by FY2009 at least 10% of the children enrolled by each Head Start and delegate agency will be disabled children eligible for special education or early

intervention services; and (2) such agencies will collaborate with state and local agencies providing such services.

Applies service delivery guidelines to: (1) models that leverage the capacity and capabilities of the delivery system of early childhood education and development services or programs; and (2) procedures to provide for the conversion of part-day programs to full-day programs or part-day slots to full-day slots and serve additional infants and toddlers.

Provides that, when Head Start appropriations are less than the prior fiscal year's appropriations or not sufficient to maintain services comparable to that prior year's services, Head Start grantees may negotiate a reduced funded enrollment level with the Secretary without a reduction in their grant level, if they can show that a reduced enrollment level is necessary to maintain the quality of services.

Requires regulations to ensure appropriate supervision and background checks of individuals with whom Head Start agencies contract to transport children.

Requires the Secretary to: (1) appoint a national migrant and seasonal Head Start collaboration director and a national Indian Head Start collaboration director; (2) conduct annual consultations in each affected Head Start region with tribal governments operating Head Start or Early Head Start programs to better gauge their needs; and (3) establish policies and procedures to remove barriers to the enrollment and participation of homeless children in Head Start programs.

(Sec. 7) Provides for the development of a new system for designating Head Start agencies and the consideration of additional criteria in evaluating applicants.

Includes community-based and faith-based organizations among the entities that may be designated Head Start agencies.

Maintains the current process of designating a Head Start agency until the Secretary develops and implements a transparent, reliable, and valid designation renewal system that integrates the recommendations of an expert panel. Designates those grantees that the system finds to be successfully delivering a high quality and comprehensive Head Start program as Head Start agencies for five years, but requires underperforming grantees to enter into open competition with other applicants.

Sets forth criteria to be considered in choosing between competing applicants, including each applicant's ability to: (1) attract and retain qualified staff; (2) maintain child-to-teacher ratios and family service worker caseloads; (3) use scientifically-based curriculum and teaching practices that are developmentally appropriate and promote school readiness; (4) coordinate with other public or private entities providing early childhood education and development programs and services for young children or willing to commit resources to Head Start programs; (5) provide family health, literacy, and parenting services; (6) extend outreach to fathers; and (7) meet the needs of LEP, disabled, homeless, and foster care children. Removes the priority currently given nonprofit applicants.

Directs the Secretary to continue to involve parents and affected area residents in selection of qualified applicants for such designation.

Prohibits a non-Indian Head Start agency from operating an Indian Head Start program, unless there is no Indian Head Start agency available in the community.

(Sec. 8) Revises Head Start quality standards and monitoring requirements.

Requires the Secretary to modify program performance standards, as necessary, so they are scientifically-based,

developmentally appropriate, and based on the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework to ensure that children, at a minimum, progress in language, literacy, mathematics, science, cognitive abilities, approaches to learning, social and emotional development, creative arts, physical development and the acquisition of the English language. Adds as new factors the Secretary must consider in modifying such standards: (1) the recommendations of the study on Developmental Outcomes and Assessments for Young Children by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS); (2) the need for Head Start agencies to communicate regularly with parents; and (3) the unique challenges faced by individual programs, including seasonal, short term, and rural programs.

Requires facilities used by Head Start, Early Head Start, and delegate agencies for regularly scheduled center-based and combination program option classroom activities to meet or exceed state and local licensing requirements, and be accessible by state and local authorities to monitor and ensure compliance, unless state or local law prohibits such access.

Requires scientifically-based measures of program performance to be reviewed periodically so they reflect advances in the science of early childhood development.

Prohibits federal use of any assessment to: (1) rank, compare, or otherwise evaluate individual Head Start children for purposes other than research, training, or technical assistance; and (2) reward or sanction individual Head Start children or teachers. Prohibits the Secretary from using any single assessment as the sole method for assessing program effectiveness or making agency funding determinations.

Requires the Secretary's reviews of Head Start agencies and programs to include unannounced site inspections, as appropriate. Requires the full reviews, conducted at least once every three years for each agency, to include a risk-based assessment approach. Requires review teams to receive periodic training to ensure quality and consistency across reviews. Includes in such reviews: (1) an assessment of whether programs adequately address community needs; (2) an observational instrument that addresses classroom quality; and (3) an assessment of whether programs use federal funds appropriately and conform to Head Start eligibility and enrollment requirements.

Requires that Early Head Start program reviews be conducted by individuals knowledgeable about infant and toddler development.

Directs Head Start agencies to evaluate their delegate agencies and inform them of deficiencies which must be corrected. Prohibits Head Start agencies from terminating a delegate agency's contract or reducing its service area without showing cause or demonstrating the decision's cost-effectiveness.

Requires summaries of program reviews and the outcomes of quality improvement plans to be made available to all parents with children receiving Head Start assistance, in addition to the public.

Requires each Head Start and delegate agency to: (1) conduct a comprehensive self-assessment at least once each program year; (2) develop goals and a plan for improving childrens' school readiness; and (3) implement ongoing monitoring of its programs.

Directs Head Start agencies to report their actual enrollment monthly to the Secretary and, if it is less than the funded enrollment, any apparent reason for the shortfall. Directs the Secretary to develop plans for programs to reduce or eliminate underenrollment, and provide such programs with technical assistance in implementing such plans.

Sets forth rules for the redistribution of base grants recaptured, withheld, or reduced.

(Sec. 9) Revises the power and functions of Head Start agencies.

Adds to the minimum services Head Start agencies provide by requiring them to: (1) seek the involvement of local business, in addition to parents and community residents, in the design and implementation of programs; (2) offer health services to parents of participating children, including information on maternal depression; (3) provide parents of LEP children with outreach and information in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, in a language such parents can understand; (4) promote the continued involvement of parents and, as appropriate, foster parents, grandparents, and kinship caregivers in the education of participating children upon their transition to school; and (5) provide disabled children with intervention and referral services.

Directs each Head Start agency to establish and maintain a formal structure for program governance, for the oversight of quality services for Head Start children and families, and for making decisions related to program design and implementation. Requires such structure to include a governing body with legal and fiscal responsibility for the Head Start agency and a policy council, elected by Head Start parents, which is responsible for the direction of the Head Start program.

Directs the Secretary to develop policies, procedures, and guidance on the resolution of internal disputes and the implementation of collaborative decision-making in program governance.

Requires Head Start agencies to conduct outreach to schools, local educational agencies (LEAs), local businesses, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, museums, and libraries to generate support and leverage community resources to improve school readiness. Requires Head Start agencies, in communities where both public prekindergarten programs and Head Start programs operate, to collaborate and coordinate activities with the public agency and providers responsible for operating prekindergarten programs, including outreach activities to identify eligible children. Directs Head Start agencies, with parental consent, to communicate regularly with schools children will be attending to share information about them, collaborate with such schools' teachers, and ensure children's smooth transition to such schools.

Changes from discretionary to mandatory the authority of Head Start agencies to coordinate activities with LEAs and schools in which participating children will enroll. Includes in such collaboration, enhancing the efficiency of services while increasing the participation of underserved eligible children.

Requires each Head Start agency, within one year of this Act's enactment, to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the local entity responsible for managing publicly funded preschool programs in its service area for the coordination and review of program services.

Establishes curricular requirements that are research-based, comprehensive, and aligned with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and state early learning standards, as appropriate. Requires the use of ongoing research-based assessment methods and developmental screening tools. Directs programs to develop training and technical assistance plans and professional development plans focused on teacher effectiveness.

Requires each Head Start agency to enroll 100% of its funded enrollment, maintain an active waiting list, and conduct community outreach.

Requires such agencies to use strong fiscal controls.

(Sec. 10) Adds to requirements for Head Start program coordination with LEAs and schools to ensure the continuity of

childrens' K-12 education by requiring: (1) the needs of homeless and LEP children, and those currently underserved by Head Start programs, to be addressed; (2) the continuity of developmentally appropriate curricula between Head Start agencies and LEAs; and (3) an emphasis on the role of parental involvement in a child's academic success.

Directs the Secretary to provide Head Start agencies with information on, and technical assistance in establishing, policies and activities that support childrens' successful transition to public schools.

(Sec. 11) Provides for local and state integration of early childhood education.

Changes from discretionary to mandatory the authority of the Secretary to award, upon written request, collaboration grants to states and each national administrative office serving Indian Head Start and migrant and seasonal Head Start programs to facilitate coordination among Head Start agencies and entities that carry out other activities designed to benefit low-income families and children from birth to school entry.

Requires the use of collaboration grants to: (1) assist Head Start agencies to collaborate with entities involved in state and local planning processes to better meet the needs of low-income families and children; (2) assist Head Start agencies to coordinate activities with the responsible state agency under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and other specified entities; (3) promote alignment of Head Start curricula and services with state early learning standards, as appropriate, and the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework; (4) promote better linkages between Head Start agencies and other child and family agencies; and (5) carry out the activities of the state Director of Head Start Collaboration.

Requires the state to appoint or designate a state Director of Head Start Collaboration (currently state liaison), and establish an Office of such Director. Requires the state Director to: (1) make specified assessments and strategic plans; (2) promote certain partnerships; (3) enable state agencies to better coordinate professional development opportunities for Head Start staff; and (4) help Head Start agencies develop plans to provide full-working-day, full calendar year services, and align them with state early learning standards, as appropriate, and the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework.

Directs the Governor of the state to designate or establish a state advisory council on early childhood education and care for children from birth to school entry, on which the state's Director of Head Start Collaboration shall serve.

(Sec. 12) Exempts from the requirement for prior submission of explanatory plans to the chief executive officer of a state any contracts, agreements, grants, loans, or other assistance for Indian Head Start programs or migrant or seasonal Head Start programs.

(Sec. 13) Adds to Head Start administrative requirements.

Directs each Head Start agency to make a report available to the public at least once each fiscal year disclosing: (1) its finances and budget; (2) its enrollment, including the percentage of its enrollees receiving medical and dental exams; (3) the results of the Secretary's most recent review and the financial audit; (4) parental involvement activities; and (5) the agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten.

Prohibits an agency from using federal funds to purchase a facility unless the agency receives the Secretary's approval and informs the Secretary of its efforts to collaborate with other community providers in seeking assistance to purchase such facility.

(Sec. 14) Alters rules regarding eligible Head Start program participants.

Requires that homeless children be deemed eligible for Head Start services

Allows Head Start agencies to provide services to limited percentages of participants who: (1) are not impoverished but whose family income is below 130% of the poverty level; or (2) who do not meet poverty criteria but would benefit from such services, such as disabled children. Requires priority to be given to children who are homeless or whose family income is below the poverty level.

Exempts certain amounts of military pay and allowances from family income consideration for purposes of determining Head Start eligibility, including: (1) special pay for duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger; and (2) a specified basic allowance, especially for housing.

Authorizes a Head Start agency, after it demonstrates a need through a communitywide strategic planning and needs assessment, to apply to the Secretary to convert part-day sessions, particularly consecutive part-day sessions, into full-day sessions.

Allows a Head Start agency to use program funds to serve infants and toddlers if it provides certain information to the Secretary proving its capacity and capability to carry out an effective Early Head Start program. Subjects such agency to the same rules applicable to Early Head Start programs.

Allows Indian Head Start agencies that also operate a Early Head Start program to reallocate funds between both programs at any time.

(Sec. 15) Adds to Early Head Start program service, coordination, and training requirements.

Requires Early Head Start programs to include: (1) parental training in parenting skills and in basic child development; (2) coordination with home-based services, programs for homeless infants and toddlers, and family support services; (3) appropriate screening and referral for children with documented behavioral problems; (4) procedures for transitioning children and parents from an Early Head Start program into a Head Start program or another local early childhood education and development program; (5) communication channels to help coordinate such Early Head Start programs with other early childhood education and development programs; and (6) formal linkages with agencies responsible for administering the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

Includes as eligible Early Head Start service providers: (1) entities operating Indian or migrant or seasonal Head Start programs; and (2) community-based and faith-based organizations capable of providing child and family services that meet Head Start standards and other appropriate requirements.

Makes homeless children eligible for Early Head Start services. Applies the changes made to Head Start income eligibility requirements to Early Head Start programs.

Makes available from Early Head Start training and technical assistance funds: (1) at least 50% for the direct use of Early Head Start agencies; (2) at least 25% for state-based or national training and technical assistance systems, including supportive infant and toddler specialists; and (3) the remainder to assist local Early Head Start entities meet and exceed program performance standards.

Directs the Secretary to ensure that all teachers providing direct services to children and families in Early Head Start centers have a minimum of a child development associate credential and training in early childhood development by September 30, 2010, and training in early childhood development with a focus on infant and toddler development by September 30, 2012.

Directs the Secretary to establish standards for training, qualifications, and the conduct of home visits for home visitor staff in Early Head Start programs. Requires that such standards include content related to the role of parents in child development and in working with other health and developmental service providers to eliminate gaps in service.

(Sec. 16) Revises requirements for appeals, notice, and hearings.

Prohibits Head Start agencies from using federal Head Start assistance for legal fees and other costs incurred in pursuing appeals; but permits the Secretary to reimburse Head Start agencies for fees deemed reasonable and customary.

(Sec. 17) Requires Head Start agencies to submit to the Secretary complete annual accountings of their administrative expenses as well as, within 30 days after completion of an audit, a copy of the audit management letters and audit findings.

(Sec. 18) Revises training and technical assistance requirements.

Adds as targets of such assistance: (1) services and outreach to homeless children, LEP children and their families, and disabled children; (2) the unique needs of rural Head Start programs; (3) members of governing bodies and policy councils or committees; (4) ensuring that staff are qualified to promote child obesity prevention; (5) training for Indian Head Start agency staff; and (6) Head Start agency selection and use of performance measures.

Requires the Secretary to provide additional support for: (1) an organization to administer a centralized child development and national assessment program leading to recognized credentials for early childhood education and development personnel; and (2) training personnel to better serve LEP children and their families, abused or neglected children, children coping with community violence, children with health problems, disabled children and their families, migrant and seasonal farmworker families, and homeless families.

Directs the Secretary to establish an outreach program to recruit and train professionals from diverse backgrounds to become Head Start teachers

Requires each Head Start agency to ensure that all of its teachers receive ongoing training in language and emergent literacy.

Prohibits the use of training funds for long-distance travel to training that is available locally or regionally.

Directs the Secretary to enter into contracts in each state with one or more entities that have expertise in supporting the delivery of high-quality early childhood education and development programs for the development of state-based or national (for migrant, seasonal, or Indian programs) training and technical assistance systems that improve the capacity of Head Start programs to meet or exceed Head Start performance standards.

Requires the Secretary to consult appropriate federal agencies and other experts, as appropriate, regarding indoor air quality and children's health and inform Head Start agencies of programs that improve indoor air.

Establishes the Career Advancement Partnership program that allows the Secretary to award demonstration grants to historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, and tribal colleges and universities to increase the number and expertise of teachers in early childhood education or related fields. Requires individuals that receive program assistance to teach in a center-based Head Start program for a period equivalent to the period for which they received assistance, or repay such assistance.

(Sec. 19) Amends staff qualification and development requirements.

Directs the Secretary to ensure that by September 30, 2013, at least 50% of Head Start teachers and all Head Start education coordinators nationwide in center-based programs have: (1) a baccalaureate or advanced degree in early childhood education; or (2) a baccalaureate or advanced degree and coursework equivalent to a major relating to early childhood education, with experience in teaching preschool children. Requires all Head Start teaching assistants nationwide in center-based programs to have a child development associate credential or be working toward an associate or baccalaureate degree by such date. Requires Head Start agencies to issue progress reports regarding their teachers' attainment of credentials and degrees.

Requires each Head Start classroom that does not have a teacher that meets such qualifications to be assigned at least one teacher that meets certain alternative credentialing and degree requirements.

Requires each Head Start teacher to attend at least 15 clock hours of professional development per year.

Requires individuals who receive educational assistance for teacher training under the Act to teach or work in a Head Start center for a minimum of three years thereafter, or repay the total or an amount prorated on the basis of service completed.

Directs the Secretary to review and, as necessary, revise or develop maximum caseload requirements for Head Start family service workers and promote strategies that ensure their ability to meet the needs of special populations, including LEP children.

Requires each Head Start agency and program to create a professional development plan for all their employees who provide direct services to children, and regularly evaluate the plan's effectiveness.

Prohibits Head Start agencies from employing individuals before interviewing them, verifying their personal and employment references, and obtaining criminal record background checks.

(Sec. 20) Alters Head Start research, demonstration, and evaluation requirements.

Includes homeless children, abused and neglected children, and foster care children in the continuing program of Head Start research, demonstration, and evaluation activities, which are now to be scientifically-based.

Repeals the mandate for the required use and linkage of specified surveys in evaluating Head Start program participants.

Requires that research, demonstration, and evaluation activities: (1) contribute to increasing the effective delivery of Head Start services to disabled and nondisabled children in classrooms containing a mixture of such children; and (2) identify successful strategies that promote good oral and vision health for Early Head Start and Head Start participants.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) study and report to Congress on the status of LEP children and their families in Head Start and Early Head Start programs; and (2) award competitive research and evaluation grants to organizations with a demonstrated capacity to serve and study such children and their families, migrant and seasonal farmworker families, and other families of diverse populations served by Head Start programs.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) integrate into each Head Start program assessment the results of the National Academy of Sciences study on Developmental Outcomes and Assessments for Young Children, when they become available; and (2) use them to develop, inform, and revise Head Start quality standards and measures.

Terminates further development and use of the National Reporting System.

Directs the Secretary to conduct studies and report on Head Start program participation by eligible Indian, Alaskan Native, and migrant and seasonal children.

Directs the Secretary to study and make recommendations for improving federal, state, and local emergency preparedness and response capabilities as they relate to Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

(Sec. 21) Includes homeless children, foster care children, and children participating Indian Head Start or migrant or seasonal Head Start programs in the biennial reports on the status of children in Head Start programs. Requires such reports to include information on the number of children served, disaggregated by eligibility type.

Directs the Secretary to report to Congress annually on whether triennial reviews of Head Start agencies provide reasonable assurances that such agencies are complying with applicable fiscal laws and regulations.

Directs the Secretary to report to Congress on; (1) the provision of services to disabled Head Start children under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and (2) efforts to prevent and reduce obesity in Head Start children.

(Sec. 22) Prohibits any Head Start employee from being compensated at a rate greater than the level II Executive Schedule pay rate.

(Sec. 23) Extends the ban against aid to or assistance in any unlawful demonstration, rioting, or civil disturbance to any individual in any Head Start Agency or other agency assisted under the Head Start Act.

(Sec. 24) Extends certain political activity restrictions to any individual employed by or assigned to a program receiving assistance under the Head Start Act during the hours in which he or she is working on its behalf.

Prohibits the use of Head Start appropriations for voter registration activities.

(Sec. 25) Requires Head Start agencies to obtain written parental consent before administering to a child, or referring the child for, a nonemergency intrusive physical examination, including one in connection with the program. Declares that such requirement shall not be construed to prohibit agencies from using established methods for handling cases of suspected or known child abuse and neglect in compliance with applicable federal, state, or tribal law.

(Sec. 26) Directs the Secretary to: (1) designate up to 200 exemplary Head Start agencies as Centers of Excellence in Early Childhood; and (2) make them bonus grants.

Requires the Centers to use at least 15% of their grants to disseminate best practices for achieving early academic success to other Head Start agencies in their states. Authorizes the use of remaining grant funds on Head Start access and quality improvement efforts, and coordinating Head Start services with other educational and social services for children and their families.

Directs the Secretary to award a grant or contract to an independent organization to research and report on the Centers' ability to: (1) improve Head Start childrens' school readiness and performance in the earliest grades; and (2) encourage delegate agencies, additional Head Start agencies, and other early childhood education and development providers to meet measurable improvement goals, particularly in school readiness.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2008-FY2012.

(Sec. 28) Directs the Secretary to report to Congress: (1) certifying that the Department of Health and Human Services

(HHS) has, for each program and activity of the Administration for Children and Families, determined which bears a significant risk of making improper payments; and (2) describing the actions to be taken to reduce improper payments to such programs and activities.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 12, 2007:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 12, 2007:** Became Public Law No: 110-134.
- **Dec 5, 2007:** Presented to President.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Rule H. Res. 813 passed House.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Mr. Kildee brought up conference report H. Rept. 110-439 for consideration under the provisions of H. Res. 813. (consideration: CR H13876-13884)
- **Nov 14, 2007:** The House proceeded with one hour of debate on the conference report to accompany H.R. 1429.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** The previous question was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H13883)
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Conference report agreed to in House: On agreeing to the conference report Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 381 - 36 (Roll no. 1090).
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Motions to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** On agreeing to the conference report Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 381 - 36 (Roll no. 1090).
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Conference papers: Senate report and manager's statement message on House action held at the desk in Senate.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Conference report considered in Senate. (consideration: CR S14375-14385, S14385-14387)
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Conference report agreed to in Senate: Senate agreed to conference report by Yea-Nay Vote. 95 - 0. Record Vote Number: 409.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Senate agreed to conference report by Yea-Nay Vote. 95 - 0. Record Vote Number: 409.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 258, enrollment corrections on H.R. 1429 have been made.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Nov 14, 2007:** Cleared for White House.
- **Nov 9, 2007:** Conference report filed: Conference report H. Rept. 110-439 filed.(text of conference report: CR H13462-13509)
- **Nov 9, 2007:** Conference report H. Rept. 110-439 filed. (text of conference report: CR H13462-13509)
- **Nov 9, 2007:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 813 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of the conference report to H.R. 1429. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.
- **Nov 8, 2007:** Conference committee actions: Conferees agreed to file conference report.
- **Nov 8, 2007:** Conferees agreed to file conference report.
- **Nov 6, 2007:** Mr. Miller, George asked unanimous consent that the House disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to a conference.
- **Nov 6, 2007:** On motion that the House disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to a conference Agreed to without objection. (consideration: CR H12800-12802, H12805)
- **Nov 6, 2007:** Mr. Castle moved that the House instruct conferees. (consideration: CR H12800)
- **Nov 6, 2007:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with one hour of debate on the Castle motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1429. The instructions contained in the motion seek to require the managers on the part of the House to (1) insist on the provisions restricting the use of Federal funds to pay the salary of any head Start employee at a rate in excess of level II of the Executive Schedule; (2) disagree to the provisions relating to wages and compensation for individuals employed by a Head Start agency compensated at a rate in excess of level II of the Executive Schedule; and (3) insist that the differences between the two Houses on wages and compensation of Head Start employees be open to discussion at any meeting of the conference and, that all meetings thereon be conducted under circumstances in which every manager on the part of the House has notice of the meeting and a reasonable opportunity to attend, pursuant to House
- **Nov 6, 2007:** The previous question was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H12802)
- **Nov 6, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - The Chair put the question on adoption of the motion to instruct conferees and by voice vote announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Bishop of Utah demanded the yeas and nays which were ordered. Further proceedings on the question of adoption of the motion were postponed until later in the legislative day.
- **Nov 6, 2007:** On motion that the House instruct conferees Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 400 - 0 (Roll no. 1045).
- **Nov 6, 2007:** The Speaker appointed conferees: Miller, George, Kildee, Woolsey, Davis (IL), Grijalva, Sanchez, Linda T., Sarbanes, Sestak, Loeb sack, Hirono, Shea-Porter, McKeon, Castle, Fortuno, Bishop (UT), Keller, Wilson (SC), Boustany, and Heller.

Jun 20, 2007: Message on Senate action sent to the House.

- **Jun 19, 2007:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S7996-7998)
- **Jun 19, 2007:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jun 19, 2007:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jun 19, 2007:** Senate insists on its amendment, asks for a conference, appoints conferees Kennedy; Dodd; Harkin; Mikulski; Bingaman; Murray; Reed; Clinton; Obama; Sanders; Brown; Enzi; Gregg; Alexander; Burr; Isakson; Murkowski; Hatch; Roberts; Allard; Coburn. (consideration: CR S7998)
- **May 7, 2007:** Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 137.
- **May 2, 2007:** Rule H. Res. 348 passed House.
- **May 2, 2007:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 348. (consideration: CR H4326-4379)
- **May 2, 2007:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1429 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order. All points of order against the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill.
- **May 2, 2007:** House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union pursuant to H. Res. 348 and Rule XVIII.
- **May 2, 2007:** The Speaker designated the Honorable Adam B. Schiff to act as Chairman of the Committee.
- **May 2, 2007:** GENERAL DEBATE - The Committee of the Whole proceeded with one hour of general debate on H.R. 1429.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the E.B. Johnson amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Price (GA) amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Price (GA) amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Price (GA) demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Sestak amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Sestak amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the ayes had prevailed. Mr. Garrett demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Hirono amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Hirono amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the ayes had prevailed. Mr. Garrett demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Mica amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Mica amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Mica demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Kennedy amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Putnam amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Putnam amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Putnam

demanding a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.

- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Porter amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Carnahan amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Carnahan amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the ayes had prevailed. Mr. McKeon demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Cuellar amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Shuler amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Shuler amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the ayes had prevailed. Mr. McKeon demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 348, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Space amendment.
- **May 2, 2007:** The House rose from the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union to report H.R. 1429.
- **May 2, 2007:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule. (consideration: CR H4375-4379)
- **May 2, 2007:** The House adopted the amendment in the nature of a substitute as agreed to by the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union. (text: CR H4336-4353)
- **May 2, 2007:** Mr. McKeon moved to recommit with instructions to Education and Labor. (consideration: CR H4376-4378; text: CR H4376)
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the McKeon motion to recommit with instructions. The instructions contained in the motion seek to require the bill to be reported back to the House with an amendment inserting a new section providing that religious organizations are included as non-governmental providers.
- **May 2, 2007:** The previous question on the motion to recommit with instructions was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H4377-4378)
- **May 2, 2007:** On motion to recommit with instructions Failed by recorded vote: 195 - 222 (Roll no. 284).
- **May 2, 2007:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 365 - 48 (Roll no. 285).
- **May 2, 2007:** On passage Passed by recorded vote: 365 - 48 (Roll no. 285).
- **May 2, 2007:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **May 1, 2007:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 348 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1429 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order. All points of order against the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill.
- **Mar 23, 2007:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Education and Labor. H. Rept. 110-67.
- **Mar 23, 2007:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 38.
- **Mar 14, 2007:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Mar 14, 2007:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 42 - 1.
- **Mar 9, 2007:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 9, 2007:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.