

## S 1542

### Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Social Welfare

**Introduced:** Sep 12, 2011

**Current Status:** Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

**Latest Action:** Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably. (Sep 20, 2011)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/1542>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** MT • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Sep 12, 2011
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		Sep 13, 2011
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Sep 19, 2011
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Sep 19, 2011
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Sep 22, 2011

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Markup By	Sep 20, 2011

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Social Welfare

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 3339	Related bill	<b>Nov 10, 2011:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Human Resources.
112 HR 2883	Related bill	<b>Sep 30, 2011:</b> Became Public Law No: 112-34.
112 HR 2790	Related bill	<b>Aug 5, 2011:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Human Resources.
112 S 1234	Related bill	<b>Jun 20, 2011:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
112 S 1013	Related bill	<b>May 17, 2011:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act - Amends title IV part B (Child and Family Services) of the Social Security Act (SSA) to extend through FY2016 the authorization of appropriations for the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program.

Revises requirements for child visitations by caseworkers.

Extends through FY2016: (1) the Safe and Stable Families Program, and (2) specified reservations of funds for monthly caseworker visits and regional partnership grants.

Revises requirements for grants to assist children affected by methamphetamine or other substance abuse to: (1) remove the specification of methamphetamine, and (2) apply the grant program generally to children affected by substance abuse. Authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to renew a five-year grant for up to an additional two years.

Revises requirements for the court improvement program to require grants to the highest state courts to serve the purpose of increasing and improving engagement of the entire family in court processes relating to child welfare, family preservation, family reunification, and adoption. Requires such a court to submit one application, rather than separate applications, for more than one grant.

Specifies mandatory allocations of funds for such grants.

Directs the Secretary, in order to improve data matching, to designate nonproprietary and interoperable standard data elements for any category of information required to be reported.

Requires state case review systems to assure that each child in foster care under state responsibility who has attained age 16 receives gratis: (1) a copy of any consumer report pertaining to the child each year until the child is discharged from care, and (2) assistance in interpreting and resolving any inaccuracies in the report.

Renews through FY2014 the authority of the Secretary to authorize states to conduct child welfare program demonstration projects likely to promote the objectives of part B or SSA title IV part E (Foster Care and Adoption Assistance).

Repeals the requirement for state project applications to consider certain types of proposals. Replaces such requirement with specified conditions for state eligibility to conduct a new demonstration project.

Authorizes a state to elect to establish a program to: (1) permit part E foster care maintenance payments to a long-term therapeutic family treatment center on behalf of a child residing in the center, or (2) identify and address domestic violence that endangers children and results in the placement of children in foster care.

Defines a long-term therapeutic family treatment center as a state-licensed or -certified program that: (1) enables parents and their children to live together in a safe environment for at least six months; and (2) provides substance abuse treatment services, children's early intervention services, family counseling, medical care, and related services.

Sets forth child welfare improvement policies.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Sep 20, 2011:** Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Sep 12, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 12, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.