H.R.

To provide assistance with respect to child care infrastructure, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ______________________

A BILL

To provide assistance with respect to child care infrastructure, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.

(a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the “Child Care is Infrastructure Act”.

(b) Findings.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Early care and learning settings directly impact the physical, behavioral, and cognitive develop-
ment of young children, and these settings should be
designed and equipped to keep children safe and
help children thrive.

(2) An investigation in 10 states conducted by
the Office of the Inspector General of the Depart-
ment of Health and Human Services found that 96
percent of early care and learning facilities inspected
during unannounced visits had at least 1 potentially
hazardous condition.

(3) Approximately 500,000 early care and
learning facilities are not regulated under the Safe
Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f), and only 11
states and New York City require licensed early care
and learning facilities to test drinking water within
such facilities for lead.

(4) A Department of Health and Human Serv-
ices report from 2015 found that an estimated 2,201
Head Start centers needed facility improvements, in-
cluding improvements related to rebuilding, ren-
ovating, and conducting maintenance on such facil-
ities.

(5) Only 2 statewide needs assessments have
been conducted:

(A) A 2011 statewide study of Massachu-
setts early care and learning facilities found ex-
cessive levels of carbon dioxide in early care and learning facilities throughout the State, insufficient ventilation systems, and furnishings containing formaldehyde.

(B) A 2014 statewide study in Rhode Island found that—

(i) all centers visited had at least one playground safety hazard;

(ii) centers in poor condition tend to serve higher rates of low-income, State-subsidized children; and

(iii) nearly 70 percent of early learning centers visited had one or more issues related to the overall building condition, such as water stains, excessive wear, and peeling paint.

(6) The National Children’s Facilities Network estimates that the United States would require at least $17 billion to bring existing early care and learning facilities up to best-practice standards.

(7) While data on the condition of facilities is available for 2 States, it is lacking elsewhere. The extent of the problem is impossible to determine without a nationwide assessment of the current condition of existing early care and learning facilities.
SEC. 2. INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS TO IMPROVE CHILD CARE SAFETY.

(a) In General.—Part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 418 the following:

“SEC. 418A. INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS TO IMPROVE CHILD CARE SAFETY.

“(a) Short Title.—This section may be cited as the ‘Infrastructure Grants to Improve Child Care Safety Child Care is Infrastructure Act’.

“(b) Needs Assessments.—

“(1) Immediate Needs Assessment.—

“(A) In General.—The Secretary shall conduct an immediate needs assessment of the condition of child care facilities throughout the United States (with priority given to child care facilities that receive Federal funds), that—

“(i) determines the extent to which the COVID–19 pandemic has created immediate infrastructure needs, including infrastructure-related health and safety needs, which must be addressed for child care facilities to operate in compliance with public health guidelines;
“(ii) considers the effects of the pandemic on a variety of child care centers, including home-based centers; and

“(iii) considers how the pandemic has impacted specific metrics, such as—

“(I) capacity;

“(II) investments in infrastructure changes;

“(III) the types of infrastructure changes centers need to implement and their associated costs;

“(IV) the price of tuition; and

“(V) any changes or anticipated changes in the number and demographic of children attending.

“(B) TIMING.—The immediate needs assessment should occur simultaneously with the first grant-making cycle under subsection (c).

“(C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a report containing the result of the needs assessment conducted under subparagraph (A), and make the assessment publicly available.

“(2) LONG-TERM NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—
“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a long-term assessment of the condition of child care facilities throughout the United States (with priority given to child care facilities that receive Federal funds). The assessment may be conducted through representative random sampling.

“(B) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a report containing the results of the needs assessment conducted under subparagraph (A), and make the assessment publicly available.

“(c) CHILD CARE FACILITIES GRANTS.—

“(1) GRANTS TO STATES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants to States for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, renovating, or improving child care facilities, including adapting, reconfiguring, or expanding facilities to respond to the COVID–19 pandemic.

“(B) PRIORITIZED FACILITIES.—The Secretary may not award a grant to a State under subparagraph (A) unless the State involved
agrees, with respect to the use of grant funds, to prioritize—

“(i) child care facilities primarily serving low-income populations;

“(ii) child care facilities primarily serving children who have not attained the age of 5 years;

“(iii) child care facilities that closed during the COVID–19 pandemic and are unable to open without making modifications to the facility that would otherwise be required to ensure the health and safety of children and staff; and

“(iv) child care facilities that serve the children of parents classified as essential workers during the COVID–19 pandemic.

“(C) Duration of Grants.—A grant under this subsection shall be awarded for a period of not more than 5 years.

“(D) Application.—To seek a grant under this subsection, a State shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, which information shall—
“(i) be disaggregated as the Secretary may require; and

“(ii) include a plan to use a portion of the grant funds to report back to the Secretary on the impact of using the grant funds to improve child care facilities.

“(E) PRIORITY.—In selecting States for grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall prioritize States that—

“(i) plan to improve center-based and home-based child care programs, which may include a combination of child care and early Head Start or Head Start programs;

“(ii) aim to meet specific needs across urban, suburban, or rural areas as determined by the State; and

“(iii) show evidence of collaboration with—

“(I) local government officials;

“(II) other State agencies;

“(III) nongovernmental organizations, such as—

“(aa) organizations within the philanthropic community;
“(bb) certified community development financial institutions as defined in section 103 of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 (12 U.S.C. 4702) that have been certified by the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (12 U.S.C. 4703); and

“(cc) organizations that have demonstrated experience in—

“(AA) providing technical or financial assistance for the acquisition, construction, renovation, or improvement of child care facilities;

“(BB) providing technical, financial, or managerial assistance to child care providers; and

“(CC) securing private sources of capital financing for child care facilities or
other low-income community development projects; and

“(IV) local community organizations, such as—

“(aa) child care providers;

“(bb) community care agencies;

“(cc) resource and referral agencies; and

“(dd) unions.

“(F) CONSIDERATION.—In selecting States for grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider—

“(i) whether the applicant—

“(I) has or is developing a plan to address child care facility needs;

and

“(II) demonstrates the capacity to execute such a plan; and

“(ii) after the date the report required by subsection (b)(1)(C) is submitted to the Congress, the needs of the applicants based on the results of the assessment.

“(G) DIVERSITY OF AWARDS.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary
shall give equal consideration to States with varying capacities under subparagraph (F).

“(H) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—As a condition for the receipt of a grant under subparagraph (A), a State that is not an Indian tribe shall agree to make available (directly or through donations from public or private entities) contributions with respect to the cost of the activities to be carried out pursuant to subparagraph (A), which may be provided in cash or in kind, in an amount equal to 10 percent of the funds provided through the grant.

“(ii) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED.—Contributions required by clause (i) may include—

“(I) amounts provided by the Federal Government, or services assisted or subsidized to any significant extent by the Federal Government; or

“(II) philanthropic or private-sector funds.

“(I) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the last day of the grant period, a State
receiving a grant under this paragraph shall
submit a report to the Secretary as described in
subparagraph (D)—

“(i) to determine the effects of the
grant in constructing, renovating, or im-
proving child care facilities, including any
changes in response to the COVID–19
pandemic and any effects on access to and
quality of child care; and

“(ii) to provide such other information
as the Secretary may require.

“(J) AMOUNT LIMIT.—The annual amount
of a grant under this paragraph may not exceed
$35,000,000.

“(2) GRANTS TO INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZA-
TIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
award grants to intermediary organizations,
such as certified community development finan-
cial institutions, tribal organizations, or other
organizations with demonstrated experience in
child care facilities financing, for the purpose of
providing technical assistance, capacity build-
ing, and financial products to develop or finance
child care facilities.
“(B) APPLICATION.—A grant under this paragraph may be made only to intermediary organizations that submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

“(C) PRIORITY.—In selecting intermediary organizations for grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall prioritize intermediary organizations that—

“(i) demonstrate experience in child care facility financing or related community facility financing;

“(ii) demonstrate the capacity to assist States and local governments in developing child care facilities and programs;

“(iii) demonstrate the ability to leverage grant funding to support financing tools to build the capacity of child care providers, such as through credit enhancements;

“(iv) propose to meet a diversity of needs across States and across urban, suburban, and rural areas at varying types of center-based, home-based, and other child care facilities;
care settings, including early care programs located in freestanding buildings or in mixed-use properties; and

“(v) propose to focus on child care facilities primarily serving low-income populations and children who have not attained the age of 5 years.

“(D) AMOUNT LIMIT.—The amount of a grant under this paragraph may not exceed $10,000,000.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than the end of fiscal year 2025, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a report on the effects of the grants provided under this subsection, and make the report publicly accessible.

“(d) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated $10,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2021, which shall remain available through fiscal year 2025.

“(2) RESERVATIONS OF FUNDS.—

“(A) INDIAN TRIBES.—The Secretary shall reserve 3 percent of the total amount made
available to carry out this section, for payments to Indian tribes.

“(B) TERRITORIES.—The Secretary shall reserve 3 percent of the total amount made available to carry out this section, for payments to territories.

“(3) GRANTS FOR INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATIONS.—Not less than 10 percent and not more than 15 percent of the total amount made available to carry out this section may be used to carry out subsection (c)(2).

“(4) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR NEEDS ASSESSMENTS.—Not more than $5,000,000 of the amounts made available to carry out this section may be used to carry out subsection (b).

“(e) DEFINITION OF STATE.—In this section, the term ‘State’ has the meaning provided in section 419, except that it includes the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and any Indian tribe.”.

(b) EXEMPTION OF TERRITORY GRANTS FROM LIMITATION ON TOTAL PAYMENTS TO THE TERRITORIES.—Section 1108(a)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1308(a)(2)) is amended by inserting “418A(e),” after “413(f),”.
SEC. 3. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Part Q of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280h) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 399Z–3. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

“(a) Authority.—The Secretary may carry out a program of entering into contracts with eligible early childhood educators under which such educators agree to serve for a period of 5 years as early childhood educators with a qualified employer, in consideration of the Federal Government agreeing to repay, for each year of such service, not more than $6,000 of the principal and interest of the educational loans of such educators.

“(b) Recertification.—An eligible early childhood educator seeking to continue to receive payments under this section shall submit on an annual basis to the Secretary such information as the Secretary may require to certify that the educator is continuing to meet the criteria to be considered an eligible educator.

“(c) Maximum Amount of Loan.—The total amount of payments received by an eligible early childhood educator under this section may not exceed the total amount of the principal and interest of the educational loans of such educator.
“(d) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—The following provisions of the National Health Service Corps Loan Assistance Program established in subpart III of part D shall apply to the program established under this section in the same manner and to the same extent as such provisions apply to the National Health Service Corps Loan Assistance Program:

“(1) Paragraphs (1) through (3) of section 338B(e) (relating to application information, understandability, and availability).

“(2) Section 338B(e)(4) (relating to recruitment and retention).

“(3) Section 338B(d) (relating to factors considered in providing contracts).

“(4) Section 338(e) (relating to the approval required for participation).

“(5) Section 338B(f) (relating to contents of contracts).

“(6) Section 338B(g) (relating to payments, including repayment schedule and tax liability).

“(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of this section.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
“(1) The term ‘eligible early childhood educator’ means an individual that—

“(A) as of the date on which the agreement referred to in subsection (a)(1) is entered into—

“(i) has outstanding Federal direct loans obtained for purposes of pursuing an associate’s degree, a 4-year bachelor’s degree, a graduate degree, or a combined bachelor and master’s degree, in early childhood education or a related field from an accredited institution (including any such loan for which the individual is enrolled in an income-based repayment plan); and

“(ii) is in good standing with respect to the loans referred to in clause (i); and

“(B) agrees to—

“(i) serve as an early childhood educator with a qualified employer for a period of not less than 5 years; and

“(ii) make timely payments with respect to the loans described in subparagraph (A)(i).
“(2) The term ‘qualified employer’ means a childcare provider that receives or is eligible to receive vouchers or assistance under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990.

“(g) Authorization of Appropriations.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2026.”.

SEC. 4. GRANTS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS.

(a) In General.—Beginning not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall carry out a program under which the Secretary makes payments to institutions of higher education with a qualified early childhood educator program to enable such institutions to make grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible individuals who file an application and agreement in accordance with subsections (b) and (c).

(b) Applications.—

(1) In General.—The Secretary shall periodically set dates by which eligible individuals shall file applications for a grant under this section. Each eligible individual desiring a grant under this section shall file an application containing such information and assurances as the Secretary may determine nec-
necessary to enable the Secretary to carry out the functions and responsibilities of this section.

(2) RENEWAL.—A grant awarded under this section may be renewed for additional one-year periods if—

(A) the recipient submits a renewal application containing such information and assurances as the Secretary may determine necessary; and

(B) the grant is renewed not more than three times, for a total of not more than four academic years for each eligible recipient.

(c) SERVICE OBLIGATION.—

(1) AGREEMENTS TO SERVE.—Each application under subsection (b) shall include, or be accompanied by—

(A) an agreement by the applicant that—

(i) in the event that the applicant receives a grant under this section, the applicant shall—

(I) serve as a full-time or part-time educator in a licensed early learning program for a total of not less than one academic year, and four additional months for each subsequent
grant renewal, within two years after
the date on which the period of time
covered by the grant is completed; and

(II) submit a certification of em-
ployment by the employing early
learning program in such form as the
Secretary may determine necessary;
and

(ii) in the event that the applicant is
determined to have failed or refused to
carry out such service obligation, the sum
of the amounts of any grants received by
such applicant under this section will be
treated as a loan and collected from the
applicant in accordance with paragraph (3)
and the regulations thereunder; and

(B) a plain-language disclosure form de-
veloped by the Secretary that clearly describes the
nature of the grant award, the service obliga-
tion, and the loan repayment requirements that
are the consequence of the failure to complete
the service obligation.

(2) TreatmEnt Of Concurrent SerViCE.—
An individual who serves as a full or part-time edu-
cator in a licensed early childhood education pro-
gram concurrently while enrolled in a qualified early childhood educator program may count such service toward the fulfillment of the service obligation in the agreement under paragraph (1).

(3) Repayment for failure to complete service.—Except as provided in paragraph (4), in the event that any recipient of a grant under this section fails or refuses to comply with the service obligation in the agreement under paragraph (1), the sum of the amounts of any grants received by such recipient shall, upon a determination of such a failure or refusal in such service obligation, be treated as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D of title IV except that—

(A) no interest shall accrue on such amounts; and

(B) such amounts shall be subject to repayment in accordance with—

(i) an income-contingent or income-based repayment plan, if the individual meets the eligibility requirements for such a repayment plan; and

(ii) such other terms and conditions as are specified by the Secretary in regulations promulgated under this section.
(4) HARDSHIP EXTENSION.—In the case of a recipient who has made a good faith effort to find employment in a licensed early learning program and has been unable to acquire such employment, the Secretary is authorized to provide a hardship extension for a period of not more than one year to grant recipients who fail to complete their service requirement within a 2 year period.

(d) GRANT AMOUNT.—An eligible individual selected to receive a grant or a grant renewal under this section shall receive a grant in an amount not to exceed $3,000 for each academic year during which the individual is enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis in the qualified early childhood educator program for which the grant was awarded.

(e) GRANT DISBURSEMENT.—Payments under this section shall be made in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary for such purpose and in such manner as will best accomplish the purposes of this section, provided—

(1) any disbursement made by crediting a grant recipient’s account shall be limited to tuition and fees and other materials necessary for the completion of coursework as determined by the Secretary; and
(2) not less than 85 percent of any funds provided to an eligible institution under subsection (a) shall be advanced to the eligible institution prior to the start of each payment period and shall be based upon an amount requested by the institution as needed to cover the total cost of grants awarded to eligible recipients until such time as the Secretary determines and publishes in the Federal Register with an opportunity for comment, an alternative payment system that provides payments to institutions in an accurate and timely manner, except that this sentence shall not be construed to limit the authority of the Secretary to place an institution on a reimbursement system of payment.

(f) DIRECT PAYMENT.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the Secretary from making a grant directly to an eligible individual in a case in which an institution of higher education with a qualified early childhood educator program does not participate in the program under subsection (a).

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term “eligible individual” means an individual who is enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis in a qualified early childhood educator program.
(2) Institution of Higher Education.—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given that term in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

(3) Qualified Early Childhood Educator Program.—The term “qualified early childhood educator program” means a course of study leading to an associate’s degree or a certificate in early childhood education or a related field from an institution of higher education.

(4) Licensed Early Learning Program.—The term “licensed early learning program” means any State-licensed or State-regulated program or provider, regardless of setting or funding source, that provides early care and education for children from birth to kindergarten entry, including, but not limited to, programs operated by child care centers and in family child care homes.

(h) Authorization of Appropriations.—

(1) In General.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.

(2) Limitation.—Of the amount made available under paragraph (1) in any fiscal year, not
more than 3 percent may be used for evaluation, monitoring, salaries, and administrative expenses.

SEC. 5. CCAMPIS REAUTHORIZATION.

Section 419N of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070e) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “The amount” and inserting “Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the amount”; and

(II) by striking “1 percent” and inserting “2 percent”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking “subsection (g)” and inserting “subsection (h)”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) PERFORMANCE BONUS.—

“(i) In general.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for any fiscal year for which the amount appropriated under subsection (h) is not less than $140,000,000, the Secretary may pay a performance
bonus to an eligible institution of higher education.

“(ii) Maximum Amount.—A bonus paid to an eligible institution of higher education under clause (i) for a fiscal year shall not exceed an amount equal to 20 percent of the amount of the annual grant payment received by the institution under paragraph (3)(B) for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the bonus is paid.

“(iii) Use of Bonus.—A bonus received by an institution under clause (i) shall be used by the institution in the same manner as a grant under this section and shall be treated as grant funds for purposes of the application of paragraph (5), except that the Secretary may extend the grant period as necessary for the institution to use such bonus.

“(iv) Eligible Institution of Higher Education.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘eligible institution of higher education’ means an institution of higher education that—
“(I) has received a grant under this section for not less than the period of three consecutive fiscal years preceding the fiscal year in which the bonus is paid under clause (i);

“(II) for each such preceding fiscal year, has met or exceeded the performance levels established by the institution for such year under subsection (e)(1)(B)(v); and

“(III) has demonstrated the need for such bonus.”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “4 years” and inserting “5 years”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “subsection (e)(2)” and inserting “subsection (e)(3)”;

(2) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

“(c) APPLICATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An institution of higher education desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such informa-
ation as the Secretary may require. Such application shall—

“(A) demonstrate that the institution is an eligible institution described in subsection (b)(4);

“(B) specify the amount of funds requested;

“(C) demonstrate the need of low-income students at the institution for campus-based child care services by including in the application—

“(i) information regarding student demographics, including whether the student is a full-time or part-time student;

“(ii) an assessment of child care capacity on or near campus;

“(iii) information regarding the waiting lists for child care services on or near campus;

“(iv) information regarding additional needs created by concentrations of poverty or by geographic isolation;

“(v) information about the number of low-income student parents being served
through campus-based child care services;

and

“(vi) other relevant data;

“(D) specify the estimated percentage of

the institution’s grant that will be used directly

to subsidize the fee charged for on-campus and

off-campus childcare, respectively, for low-in-

come students;

“(E) contain a description of the activities
to be assisted, including whether the grant

funds will support an existing child care pro-

gram or a new child care program;

“(F) identify the resources, including tech-

ical expertise and financial support, that the

institution will draw upon to support the child

care program and the participation of low-in-

come students in the program (such as access-

ing social services funding, using student activ-

ity fees to help pay the costs of child care,

using resources obtained by meeting the needs

of parents who are not low-income students,

and accessing foundation, corporate, or other

institutional support) and demonstrate that the

use of the resources will not result in increases

in student tuition;
“(G) contain an assurance that the institution will meet the child care needs of low-income students through the provision of services, or through a contract for the provision of services;

“(H) describe the extent to which the child care program will coordinate with the institution’s early childhood education curriculum, to the extent the curriculum is available, to meet the needs of the students in the early childhood education program at the institution, and the needs of the parents and children participating in the child care program assisted under this section;

“(I) in the case of an institution seeking assistance for a new child care program—

“(i) provide a timeline, covering the period from receipt of the grant through the provision of the child care services, delineating the specific steps the institution will take to achieve the goal of providing low-income students with child care services;

“(ii) specify any measures the institution will take to assist low-income students
with child care during the period before
the institution provides child care services;
and

“(iii) include a plan for identifying re-
resources needed for the child care services,
including space in which to provide child
care services, and technical assistance if
necessary;

“(J) contain an assurance that any child
care facility assisted under this section will
meet the applicable State and local government
licensing, certification, approval, or registration
requirements;

“(K) in the case of an institution that is
awarded a grant under this section after the
date of the enactment of the College Afford-
ability Act, provide an assurance that, not later
than three years after the date on which such
grant is awarded, any child care facility assisted
with such grant will—

“(i) meet Head Start performance
standards under subchapter B of chapter
13 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations
(as in effect on the date of enactment of
the College Affordability Act) and any successor regulations;

“(ii) be in the top tier of the quality rating improvement system for such facilities used by the State in which the facility is located;

“(iii) meet the licensing requirements of the State in which the facility is located and the quality requirements under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.); or

“(iv) be accredited by a national early childhood accrediting body with demonstrated valid and reliable program quality standards;

“(L) contain an assurance that the institution, when applicable, will make information available to students receiving child care services provided under this section about the eligibility of such students and their dependents for assistance under the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children under the Child Nutrition
Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), and the program of block grants for States for temporary assistance for needy families established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.); and

“(M) contain an abstract summarizing the contents of such application and how the institution intends to achieve the purpose under subsection (a).

“(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may provide technical assistance to eligible institutions to help such institutions qualify, apply for, and maintain a grant under this section.”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “to institutions of higher education that submit applications describing programs that”;

(B) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(1) based on the extent to which institutions of higher education that submit applications for such a grant leverage local or institutional resources, including in-kind contributions, to support the activities assisted under this section;”;
(C) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); 

(D) by inserting after paragraph (1), the following:

“(2) to institutions of higher education that, compared to other institutions of higher education that submit applications for such a grant, demonstrate a high likelihood of need for campus-based child care based on student demographics (such as a high proportion of low-income students or independent students); and”; and

(E) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by subparagraph (C)), by inserting “to institutions of higher education that submit applications describing programs that” before “utilize”; and

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) by redesignating clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv) as clauses (vi), (vii), and (viii), respectively; and

(ii) by striking the semicolon at the end of clause (i) and inserting the following: “, which shall include—

“(I) the number of full- and part-time students, respectively, receiving
child care services under this section at least once per week during the academic year;

“(II) the number of credits accumulated by students receiving such child care services;

“(III) the number of students receiving child care services under this section at least once per week during the academic year who—

“(aa) remain enrolled at the institution during the academic year for which they received such services;

“(bb) enroll at the institution for the following academic year; and

“(cc) graduate or transfer within—

“(AA) 150 percent of the normal time for completion of a student’s four-year degree granting program; or

“(BB) 200 percent of the normal time for comple-
tion of a student’s two-year
degree-granting program;
“(ii) with respect to the total student
enrollment at the institution and the total
enrollment of low-income students at the
institution, respectively—
“(I) the rate at which students
who complete an academic year at the
institution re-enroll in the institution
for the following academic year; and
“(II) the percentage of students
graduating or transferring within—
“(aa) 150 percent of the
normal time for completion of a
student’s four-year degree grant-
ing program; or
“(bb) 200 percent of the
normal time for completion of a
student’s two-year degree grant-
ing program;
“(iii) the percentage of the institu-
tion’s grant that was used directly to sub-
sidize the fee charged for on-campus and
off-campus childcare, respectively, for low-
income students;
“(iv) whether the institution restricts eligibility for child care services to only full-time students;

“(v) the sufficiently ambitious levels of performance established for such year by the institution that demonstrate meaningful progress and allow for meaningful evaluation of program quality based on the information in clauses (i)(III) and (iii);”;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

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

“(2) REPORT.—

“(A) REPORT REQUIRED.—On an annual basis, the Secretary shall submit to the authorizing committees a report that includes—

“(i) a summary of the information described in paragraph (1); and

“(ii) each abstract submitted under subsection (c)(1)(M) by an institution of higher education that receives a grant under this section.
“(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make each report submitted under subparagraph (A) publicly available.”;

(D) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by inserting “(other than the information provided under subparagraph (B)(v) of such paragraph)” after “paragraph (1)”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to institutions of higher education receiving grants under this section to help such institutions meet the reporting requirements under this subsection.”;

(5) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h);

(6) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

“(g) NONDISCRIMINATION.—No person in the United States shall, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth, a medical condition related to pregnancy or childbirth, and sex stereotype), or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination by any program funded, in whole or in part, with funds made avail-
able under this section or with amounts appropriated for grants, contracts, or certificates administered with such funds.”; and

(7) in subsection (h), as so redesignated, by striking “such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009” and inserting “$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2021”.

SEC. 6. STUDY OF IMPACT OF TAX CREDIT FOR EMPLOYER-PROVIDED CHILD CARE.

(a) Study.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor, shall—

(1) complete a study that examines the tax credit for employer-provided child care authorized under section 45F of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 by considering such metrics as—

(A) the characteristics of employers that take the credit, including the size of such employer, whether such employer is in a rural or urban location, and whether such employer also offers a dependent care assistance program described in section 129 of such code;

(B) the characteristics of employers that do not take the credit;
(C) the extent to which employees benefit when employers provide child care and take the credit;

(D) any challenges identified by employers that do not take the credit; and

(E) any explanations from employers as to why they do or do not take the credit; and

(2) prepare and submit a report to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives setting forth the conclusions of the study conducted under paragraph (1) in such a manner that the recommendations included in the report can inform future legislative action. Such report shall also be made publicly available via the website of the Government Accountability Office.

(b) PROHIBITION.—In carrying out the requirements of this section, the Comptroller General of the United States may request qualitative and quantitative information from employers claiming the credit under section 45F of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, but nothing in this section shall be construed as mandating additional reporting requirements for such employers beyond what is already required by law.
SEC. 7. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE UNDER CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE.

In providing assistance for fiscal year 2020 and any fiscal year thereafter under the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (pursuant to section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v)), the Secretary shall consider early care and learning facilities for children as a neighborhood asset for purposes of evaluating applications for planning and implementation grants, shall ensure that any metric for evaluating such applications gives credit for the provision of early care and learning facilities under a neighborhood plan, and shall include early care and learning facilities as such an asset in any Notice of Funding Availability for any such fiscal year.