

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 116–57

OFFERED BY MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS

At the end of title XII, add the following:

1 **Subtitle H—Global Child Thrive**
2 **Act of 2020**

3 **SEC. 1281. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This subtitle may be cited as the “Global Child
5 Thrive Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 1282. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

8 (1) the United States Government should con-
9 tinue efforts to reduce child mortality rates and in-
10 crease attention on prevention efforts and early
11 childhood development programs;

12 (2) investments in early childhood development
13 ensure healthy and well-developed future generations
14 that contribute to a country’s stability, security and
15 economic prosperity;

16 (3) efforts to provide training and education on
17 nurturing care could result in improved early child-
18 hood development outcomes and support healthy
19 brain development; and

1 (4) integration and cross-sector coordination of
2 early childhood development programs is critical to
3 ensure the efficiency, effectiveness, and continued
4 implementation of such programs.

5 **SEC. 1283. ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE EARLY CHILDHOOD**
6 **OUTCOMES GLOBALLY.**

7 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE.—Amounts au-
8 thorized to be appropriated to carry out section 135 in
9 chapter 1 of part 1 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
10 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) for each of the fiscal years 2021
11 through 2025 are authorized to be made available to sup-
12 port early childhood development activities in conjunction
13 with relevant, existing programming, such as water, sani-
14 tation and hygiene, maternal and child health, basic edu-
15 cation, nutrition and child protection.

16 (b) ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE EARLY CHILDHOOD IN-
17 COMES GLOBALLY.—Chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign
18 Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is amend-
19 ed by adding at the end the following:

20 **“SEC. 137. ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE EARLY CHILDHOOD**
21 **OUTCOMES GLOBALLY.**

22 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 “(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
24 TEES.—The term ‘appropriate congressional com-
25 mittees’ means—

1 “(A) the Committee on Appropriations of
2 the Senate;

3 “(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
4 of the Senate;

5 “(C) the Committee on Appropriations of
6 the House of Representatives; and

7 “(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
8 the House of Representatives.

9 “(2) EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT.—The
10 term ‘early childhood development’ means the devel-
11 opment and learning of a child younger than 8 years
12 of age, including physical, cognitive, social, and emo-
13 tional development and approaches to learning that
14 allow a child to reach his or her full developmental
15 potential.

16 “(3) EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PRO-
17 GRAM.—The term ‘early childhood development pro-
18 gram’ means a program that ensures that every
19 child has the conditions for healthy growth, nur-
20 turing family-based care, development and learning,
21 and protection from violence, exploitation, abuse,
22 and neglect, which may include—

23 “(A) a health, clean water, sanitation, and
24 hygiene program that serves pregnant women,

1 children younger than 5 years of age, and the
2 parents of such children;

3 “(B) a nutrition program, combined with
4 stimulating child development activity;

5 “(C) age appropriate cognitive stimulation,
6 especially for newborns, infants, and toddlers,
7 including an early childhood intervention pro-
8 gram for children experiencing at-risk situa-
9 tions, developmental delays, disabilities, and be-
10 havioral and mental health conditions;

11 “(D) an early learning (36 months and
12 younger), preschool, and basic education pro-
13 gram for children until they reach 8 years of
14 age or complete primary school; or

15 “(E) a child protection program, with an
16 emphasis on the promotion of permanent, safe,
17 and nurturing families, rather than placement
18 in residential care or institutions, including for
19 children with disabilities.

20 “(4) FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGEN-
21 CIES.—The term ‘Federal departments and agencies’
22 means—

23 “(A) the Department of State;

24 “(B) the United States Agency for Inter-
25 national Development;

1 “(C) the Department of the Treasury;

2 “(D) the Department of Labor;

3 “(E) the Department of Education;

4 “(F) the Department of Agriculture;

5 “(G) the Department of Defense;

6 “(H) the Department of Health and

7 Human Services, including—

8 “(i) the Centers for Disease Control
9 and Prevention; and

10 “(ii) the National Institutes of
11 Health;

12 “(I) the Millennium Challenge Corpora-
13 tion;

14 “(J) the Peace Corps; and

15 “(K) any other department or agency spec-
16 ified by the President for the purposes of this
17 section.

18 “(5) RESIDENTIAL CARE.—The term ‘residen-
19 tial care’ means care provided in any non-family-
20 based group setting, including orphanages, transit or
21 interim care centers, children’s homes, children’s vil-
22 lages or cottage complexes, group homes, and board-
23 ing schools used primarily for care purposes as an
24 alternative to a children’s home.

1 “(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
2 United States—

3 “(1) to support early childhood development in
4 relevant foreign assistance programs, including by
5 integrating evidence-based, efficient, and effective
6 interventions into relevant strategies and programs,
7 in coordination with partner countries, other donors,
8 international organizations, international financial
9 institutions, local and international nongovernmental
10 organizations, private sector partners, civil society,
11 and faith-based and community-based organizations;
12 and

13 “(2) to encourage partner countries to lead
14 early childhood development initiatives that include
15 incentives for building local capacity for continued
16 implementation and measurable results, by—

17 “(A) scaling up the most effective, evi-
18 dence-based, national interventions, including
19 for the most vulnerable populations and chil-
20 dren with disabilities and developmental delays,
21 with a focus on adaptation to country re-
22 sources, cultures, and languages;

23 “(B) designing, implementing, monitoring,
24 and evaluating programs in a manner that en-
25 hances their quality, transparency, equity, ac-

1 countability, efficiency and effectiveness in im-
2 proving child and family outcomes in partner
3 countries; and

4 “(C) utilizing and expanding innovative
5 public-private financing mechanisms.

6 “(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
8 the date of the enactment of this section, the Admin-
9 istrator of the United States Agency for Inter-
10 national Development, in coordination with the Sec-
11 retary of State, shall direct relevant Federal depart-
12 ments and agencies—

13 “(A) to incorporate, to the extent practical
14 and relevant, early childhood development into
15 foreign assistance programs to be carried out
16 during the following 5 fiscal years; and

17 “(B) to promote inclusive early childhood
18 development in partner countries.

19 “(2) ELEMENTS.—In carrying out paragraph
20 (1), the Administrator, the Secretary, and the heads
21 of other relevant Federal departments and agencies
22 as appropriate shall—

23 “(A) build on the evidence and priorities
24 outlined in ‘Advancing Protection and Care for
25 Children in Adversity: A U.S. Government

1 Strategy for International Assistance 2019–
2 2023’, published in June 2019 (referred to in
3 this section as ‘APCCA’);

4 “(B) to the extent practicable, identify evi-
5 dence-based strategic priorities, indicators, out-
6 comes, and targets, particularly emphasizing
7 the most vulnerable populations and children
8 with disabilities and developmental delays, to
9 support inclusive early childhood development;

10 “(C) support the design, implementation,
11 and evaluation of pilot projects in partner coun-
12 tries, with the goal of taking such projects to
13 scale;

14 “(D) support inclusive early childhood de-
15 velopment within all relevant sector strategies
16 and public laws, including—

17 “(i) the Global Water Strategy re-
18 quired under section 136(j);

19 “(ii) the whole-of-government strategy
20 required under section 5 of the Global
21 Food Security Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C.
22 9304 note);

23 “(iii) the Basic Education Strategy
24 set forth in section 105(c);

1 “(iv) the U.S. Government Global Nu-
2 trition Coordination Plan, 2016–2021; and

3 “(v) APCCA; and others as appro-
4 priate;

5 “(E) improve coordination with foreign
6 governments and international and regional or-
7 ganizations with respect to official country poli-
8 cies and plans to improve early childhood devel-
9 opment, maternal, newborn, and child health
10 and nutrition care, basic education, water, sani-
11 tation and hygiene, and child protection plans
12 which promote nurturing, appropriate, protec-
13 tive, and permanent family care, while reducing
14 the percentage of children living in residential
15 care or on the street; and

16 “(F) consult with partner countries, other
17 donors, international organizations, inter-
18 national financial institutions, local and inter-
19 national nongovernmental organizations, private
20 sector partners and faith-based and community-
21 based organizations, as appropriate.

22 “(d) ANNUAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
23 THE STRATEGY.—The Special Advisor for Children in Ad-
24 versity shall include, in the annual report required under
25 section 5 of the Assistance for Orphans and Other Vulner-

1 able Children in Developing Countries Act of 2005 (22
2 U.S.C. 2152g), which shall be submitted to the appro-
3 priate congressional committees and made publicly avail-
4 able, a description of—

5 “(1) the progress made toward integrating early
6 childhood development interventions into relevant
7 strategies and programs;

8 “(2) the efforts made by relevant Federal de-
9 partments and agencies to implement subsection (c),
10 with a particular focus on the activities described in
11 such subsection;

12 “(3) the progress achieved during the reporting
13 period toward meeting the goals, objectives, bench-
14 marks, described in subsection (c); and

15 “(4) the progress achieved during the reporting
16 period toward meeting the goals, objectives, bench-
17 marks, and timeframes described in subsection (c) at
18 the program level, along with specific challenges or
19 gaps that may require shifts in targeting or financ-
20 ing in the following fiscal year.

21 “(e) INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.—The Special Advi-
22 sor for Assistance to Orphans and Vulnerable Children
23 should regularly convene an interagency task force, to co-
24 ordinate—

1 “(1) intergovernmental and interagency moni-
2 toring, evaluation, and reporting of the activities
3 carried out pursuant to this section;

4 “(2) early childhood development initiatives
5 that include children with a variety of needs and cir-
6 cumstances; and

7 “(3) United States Government early childhood
8 development programs, strategies, and partnerships
9 across relevant Federal departments and agencies.”.

10 **SEC. 1284. SPECIAL ADVISOR FOR ASSISTANCE TO OR-**
11 **PHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN.**

12 Section 135(e)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of
13 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2152f(e)(2)) is amended—

14 (1) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as
15 follows:

16 “(A) Coordinate assistance to orphans and
17 other vulnerable children among the relevant
18 Executive branch agencies and officials.”; and

19 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “the var-
20 ious offices, bureaus, and field missions within the
21 United States Agency for International Develop-
22 ment” and inserting “the relevant Executive branch
23 agencies and officials”.

1 **SEC. 1285. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

2 Nothing in the amendments made by this subtitle
3 may be construed to restrict or abrogate any other author-
4 ization for United States Agency for International Devel-
5 opment activities or programs.

