 Patty Murray

AMENDMENT NO. Title X Amendment 1 Calendar No._____

Purpose: To set the United States on track to ensure children are ready to learn when they begin kindergarten.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—112th Cong., 1st Sess.

S.____

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENTS intended to be proposed by Mrs. MURRAY

Viz:

1 In the heading of title X, strike "**TITLE X**" and
2 insert "**TITLE XI**".

3 In section 10011, strike "**10011**" and insert "**11011**".

4 In section 10012, strike "**10012**" and insert "**11012**".

5 In section 10021, strike "**10021**" and insert "**11021**".

6 After title IX, insert the following:

TITLE X—READY TO LEARN ACT

SEC. 10001. EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"TITLE X—SUPPORTING VOLUNTARY PREKINDERGARTEN

"SEC. 10001. SUPPORTING VOLUNTARY PREKINDERGARTEN GRANTS.

"(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts available under section 10003, the Secretary is authorized to award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible States to pay the Federal share of establishing and administering high-quality full day voluntary prekindergarten programs for children age 4 in the State, in order to promote school readiness for such children.

"(b) APPLICATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—If a State desires a grant under this title, the Governor of such State shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing a plan that outlines how and when such State expects to provide voluntary prekindergarten for every 4-year old in the State.

"(2) SUBGRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (c)(2), a State that receives a grant under this title shall use the grant funds to award subgrants to eligible entities to carry out the requirements of this title.

"(B) SUBGRANTS FOR COMMUNITY-BASED PROVIDERS.—In awarding subgrants under subparagraph (A), a State shall use not less than 25 percent of the grant funds provided to the State to award subgrants to eligible entities that are community-based providers of prekindergarten programs.

"(C) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—In this paragraph, the term 'eligible entity' includes schools, child care entities, Head Start programs, or other community-based providers of prekindergarten programs.

"(c) USE OF FUNDS.—A State that receives a grant under this title shall use—

"(1) not less than 85 percent of the funds provided under such grant to carry out the activities described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (d); and

"(2) not more than 15 percent of such funds at the State level for quality investment described in subsection (d)(3).

"(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—A State that receives a grant under this title shall use grant funds to provide a high-quality prekindergarten program that—

"(A) serves children age 4 in the State, serving first children from low-income families with incomes that are not more than 200 percent of the poverty line and those who are limited English proficient;

"(B) not later than 2 years after the receipt of the grant, ensures that each classroom is taught by a teacher who has—

"(i) a baccalaureate degree or advanced degree in early childhood education; or

"(ii) a baccalaureate degree and specialized training in early childhood development;

"(C) utilizes a developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate curriculum that is aligned with the State early learning standards

1 and valid and reliable, multiple assessments for
2 the purpose of improving instruction; and
3 "(D) has a teacher-child ratio of not more
4 than 1 to 10 and a group size of not more than
5 20.
6 "(2) ALLOWABLE USES OF FUNDS.—After a
7 State has fulfilled the requirements described in
8 paragraph (1), such State may use grant funds—
9 "(A) to serve younger children;
10 "(B) to increase salaries;
11 "(C) for additional comprehensive services
12 as may be needed; and
13 "(D) for the construction of new facilities,
14 or the renovation, repair, or alteration of exist-
15 ing facilities, necessary to commence or con-
16 tinue such prekindergarten.
17 "(3) QUALITY INVESTMENT.—A State that re-
18 ceives a grant under this title shall use grant
19 funds—
20 "(A) to develop or expand a quality rating
21 and improvement system in the State;
22 "(B) to carry out other activities needed to
23 ensure the health and safety of children served
24 under this title;

"(C) for professional development for teachers and staff of the prekindergarten program described in paragraph (1); and

"(D) to provide comprehensive services.

"SEC. 10002. ADMINISTRATION.

"(a) FEDERAL SHARE; NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

"(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of a grant under this title shall be 50 percent of the costs of carrying out the activities described in section 10001(d).

"(2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of a grant under this title shall be provided in cash.

"(b) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—The Secretary may not award a grant under this title to any State unless the Secretary first determines that the per-child expenditure by the State and its political subdivisions for prekindergarten programs (other than funds used to pay the non-Federal share under this section) for the fiscal year for which the determination is made is equal to or greater than such expenditure for the preceding fiscal year.

"(c) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Grant funds received under this title shall be used to supplement and not supplant other Federal, State, and local public funds

1 expended to promote voluntary prekindergarten programs
2 in the State.
3 "(d) WAIVER OR REDUCTION.—The Secretary may
4 waive or reduce the non-Federal share requirement under
5 subsection (a) or the maintenance of effort requirement
6 under subsection (b) if the State demonstrates a need for
7 such waiver or reduction due to financial hardship.
8 "(e) PROVISION OF GRANT FUNDS.—In awarding a
9 grant under this title to a State, the Secretary shall pro-
10 vide the grant funds to the Governor of the State, to en-
11 able the Governor to designate, in consultation with the
12 State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and
13 Care, a lead agency to best direct the funds in a manner
14 that improves the State's programs by carrying out the
15 requirements of this title.
16 "(f) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this title, the
17 Secretary shall coordinate, not less often than quarterly,
18 with the Secretary of Health and Human Services regard-
19 ing the review of State plans as described in section
20 10001(b) and the implementation of the prekindergarten
21 programs under this title.
22 "(g) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—
23 "(1) STATE REPORTS.—Each State that re-
24 ceives a grant under this title shall submit to the
25 Secretary an annual report detailing the effective-

ness of each prekindergarten program in that State funded under this title.

"(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives an annual report that describes each State program of assistance for prekindergarten programs funded under this title.

"(3) CONTENTS OF REPORTS.—A report submitted under paragraph (1) or (2) shall include—

"(A) a description of each action taken to move toward providing a high-quality prekindergarten education to all 4-year olds;

"(B) a summary of each measure that will be taken to achieve the goal of providing full day high-quality prekindergarten to all 4-year olds, including a timetable according to which such measures will be implemented;

"(C) a description of all efforts to improve the integration of full day high-quality prekindergarten programs with the kindergarten through grade 12 education system; and

1 "(D) a description of all efforts to educate
2 parents about best practices for the role of par-
3 ents in the early education of a child.

4 **"SEC. 10003. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5 "There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
6 this title such sums as may be necessary for each of the
7 fiscal years 2012 through 2017.".