

ability of child protection services to protect suffering children;

“(2) the documentary described in paragraph (1) showed the serious need for systemic changes in our child welfare protection system;

“(3) thorough, coordinated, and comprehensive investigation will, it is hoped, lead to the prevention of abuse, neglect, or death in the future;

“(4) an undue burden is placed on investigation due to strict Federal and State laws and regulations regarding confidentiality;

“(5) while the Congress recognizes the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of records pertaining to child abuse, neglect, and death, often the purpose of confidentiality laws and regulations are [sic] defeated when they have the effect of protecting those responsible;

“(6) comprehensive and coordinated interagency communication needs to be established, with adequate provisions to protect against the public disclosure of any detrimental information need to be established [sic];

“(7) certain States, including Georgia, North Carolina, California, Missouri, Arizona, Minnesota, Oklahoma, and Oregon, have taken steps to establish by statute interagency, multidisciplinary fatality review teams to fully investigate incidents of death believed to be caused by child abuse or neglect;

“(8) teams such as those described in paragraph (7) should be established in every State, and their scope of review should be expanded to include egregious incidents of child abuse and neglect before the child in question dies; and

“(9) teams such as those described in paragraph (7) will increase the accountability of child protection services.”

**§ 5106a-1. Repealed. Pub. L. 103-252, title IV, § 401(b)(2), May 18, 1994, 108 Stat. 672**

Section, Pub. L. 93-247, title I, § 107A, as added Pub. L. 101-226, § 21, Dec. 12, 1989, 103 Stat. 1937; amended Pub. L. 102-295, title I, § 115(a), May 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 195, related to emergency child abuse prevention services grants.

**§ 5106b. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-235, title I, § 108, Oct. 3, 1996, 110 Stat. 3078**

Section, Pub. L. 93-247, title I, § 108, formerly § 9, as added Pub. L. 100-294, title I, § 101, Apr. 25, 1988, 102 Stat. 113; renumbered title I, § 108, and amended Pub. L. 101-126, § 3(a)(1), (2), (b)(4), Oct. 25, 1989, 103 Stat. 764, 765, related to technical assistance to States for child abuse prevention and treatment programs.

**§ 5106c. Grants to States for programs relating to investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases**

**(a) Grants to States**

The Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General, is authorized to make grants to the States for the purpose of assisting States in developing, establishing, and operating programs designed to improve—

(1) the assessment and investigation of suspected child abuse and neglect cases, including cases of suspected child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child and the child's family;

(2) the assessment and investigation of cases of suspected child abuse-related fatalities and suspected child neglect-related fatalities;

(3) the investigation and prosecution of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation; and

(4) the assessment and investigation of cases involving children with disabilities or serious

health-related problems who are suspected victims of child abuse or neglect.

**(b) Eligibility requirements**

In order for a State to qualify for assistance under this section, such State shall—

(1) fulfill the requirements of section 5106a(b) of this title;

(2) establish a task force as provided in subsection (c);

(3) fulfill the requirements of subsection (d);

(4) submit annually an application to the Secretary at such time and containing such information and assurances as the Secretary considers necessary, including an assurance that the State will—

(A) make such reports to the Secretary as may reasonably be required; and

(B) maintain and provide access to records relating to activities under subsections (a) and (b); and

(5) submit annually to the Secretary a report on the manner in which assistance received under this program was expended throughout the State, with particular attention focused on the areas described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a).

**(c) State task forces**

**(1) General rule**

Except as provided in paragraph (2), a State requesting assistance under this section shall establish or designate, and maintain, a State multidisciplinary task force on children's justice (hereinafter referred to as "State task force") composed of professionals with knowledge and experience relating to the criminal justice system and issues of child physical abuse, child neglect, child sexual abuse and exploitation, and child maltreatment related fatalities. The State task force shall include—

(A) individuals representing the law enforcement community;

(B) judges and attorneys involved in both civil and criminal court proceedings related to child abuse and neglect (including individuals involved with the defense as well as the prosecution of such cases);

(C) child advocates, including both attorneys for children and, where such programs are in operation, court appointed special advocates;

(D) health and mental health professionals;

(E) individuals representing child protective service agencies;

(F) individuals experienced in working with children with disabilities;

(G) parents;

(H) representatives of parents' groups;

(I) adult former victims of child abuse or neglect; and

(J) individuals experienced in working with homeless children and youths (as defined in section 11434a of this title).

**(2) Existing task force**

As determined by the Secretary, a State commission or task force established after January 1, 1983, with substantially comparable membership and functions, may be considered