Does Your Council Make the Grade

May 2003
An integral part of performance management and improvement of council operations is addressing legal and regulatory requirements. Addressing these areas requires establishing measures and indicators that council members and staff can track in their overall performance review. Councils should be sensitive to issues of public concern whether or not those issues are currently embodied in law.

Public responsibility implies going beyond minimum compliance with laws and regulations. Councils should serve as role models of responsibility and provide leadership in several key areas. High performing organizations are already in compliance, and have moved to developing innovations that exceed minimum requirements.

Each compliance item provides an opportunity for improvement. Councils can approach compliance testing in several ways.

**Possible steps in a compliance testing process:**

1. Create a self assessment team composed of council members and staff.

2. Review the compliance checklist created from P.L.106-402.

3. Set up time to orient the self assessment team to the compliance checklist and the method of testing the facts against the compliance items.

4. Assemble the documents or interviews to support the scoring of the compliance items. The team can be subdivided to perform internal checks of certain items that would be grouped together naturally (Governor’s appointment process, budget/fiscal records).

5. Systematically score performance and calculate a compliance score.

6. Choose areas for improvement.

7. Submit results and discuss with ADD regional staff.

8. Report back to the full council and discuss findings.

9. Determine which items must be part of a compliance checklist for those receiving grants and contracts from the council;

10. Determine how to deploy the compliance checklist to those individuals and organizations.
SEC. 121. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this subtitle is to provide for allotments to support State Councils on Developmental Disabilities (referred to individually in this subtitle as a "Council") in each State to-

1. (1) engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that are consistent with the purpose described in section 101(b) and the policy described in section 101(c); and

2. (2) contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered, comprehensive system of community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that enable individuals with developmental disabilities to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life.

SEC. 122. STATE ALLOTMENTS.

3. (B) USE OF FUNDS. Sums allotted to the States under this section shall be used to pay for the Federal share of the cost of carrying out projects in accordance with State plans approved under section 124 for the provision under such plans of services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

4. (b) UNOBLIGATED FUNDS. Any amount paid to a State for a fiscal year and remaining unobligated at the end of such year shall remain available to such State for the next fiscal year for the purposes for which such amount was paid.

5. (c) OBLIGATION OF FUNDS. For the purposes of this subtitle, State Interagency Agreements are considered valid obligations for the purpose of obligating Federal funds allotted to the State under this subtitle.
6. (d) COOPERATIVE EFFORTS BETWEEN STATES.
If a State plan approved in accordance with section 124 provides for cooperative or joint effort between or among States or agencies, public or private, in more than 1 State, portions of funds allotted to 1 or more States described in this subsection may be combined in accordance with the agreements between the States or agencies involved.

SEC. 124 STATE PLAN.

7. (a) IN GENERAL. Any State desiring to receive assistance under this subtitle shall submit to the Secretary, and obtain approval of, a 5-year strategic State plan under this section.

8. (b) PLANNING CYCLE. The plan described in subsection (a) shall be updated as appropriate during the 5-year period.

9. (1) STATE COUNCIL. The plan shall provide for the establishment and maintenance of a Council in accordance with section 125 and describe the membership of such Council.

10. (2) DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY. The plan shall identify the agency or office within the State designated to support the Council in accordance with this section and section 125(d) (referred to in this subtitle as a "designated State agency").

11. (A) a description of the services, supports, and other assistance being provided to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families under other federally assisted State programs, plans, and policies under which the State operates and in which individuals with developmental disabilities are or may be eligible to participate, including particularly programs relating to the areas of emphasis, including-
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<td>12. (i) medical assistance, maternal and child health care, services for children with special health care needs, children's mental health services, comprehensive health and mental health services, and institutional care options;</td>
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<td>13. (ii) job training, job placement, worksite accommodation, and vocational rehabilitation, and other work assistance programs; and</td>
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<td>14. (iii) social, child welfare, aging, independent living, and rehabilitation and assistive technology services, and such other services as the Secretary may specify;</td>
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<td>15. (B) a description of the extent to which agencies operating such other federally assisted State programs, including activities authorized under section 101 or 102 of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 3011, 3012), pursue interagency initiatives to improve and enhance community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance for individuals with developmental disabilities;</td>
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<td>16. (C) an analysis of the extent to which community services and opportunities related to the areas of emphasis directly benefit individuals with developmental disabilities, especially with regard to their ability to access and use services provided in their communities, to participate in opportunities, activities, and events offered in their communities, and to contribute to community life, identifying particularly-</td>
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<td>17. (i) the degree of support for individuals with developmental disabilities that are attributable to either physical impairment, mental impairment, or a combination of physical and mental impairments;</td>
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<td>18. (ii) criteria for eligibility for services, including specialized services and special adaptation of generic services provided by agencies within the State, that may exclude individuals with developmental disabilities from receiving services described in this clause;</td>
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19. (iii) the barriers that impede full participation of members of unserved and underserved groups of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;

20. (iv) the availability of assistive technology, assistive technology services, or rehabilitation technology, or information about assistive technology, assistive technology services, or rehabilitation technology to individuals with developmental disabilities;

21. (v) the numbers of individuals with developmental disabilities on waiting lists for services described in this subparagraph;

22. (vi) a description of the adequacy of current resources and projected availability of future resources to fund services described in this subparagraph;

23. (vii) a description of the adequacy of health care and other services, supports, and assistance that individuals with developmental disabilities who are in facilities receive (based in part on each independent review (pursuant to section 1902(a)(30)(C) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(30)(C)) of an Intermediate Care Facility (Mental Retardation) within the State, which the State shall provide to the Council not later than 30 days after the availability of the review); and

24. (viii) to the extent that information is available, a description of the adequacy of health care and other services, supports, and assistance that individuals with developmental disabilities who are served through home and community-based waivers (authorized under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396n(c))) receive;

25. (D) a description of how entities funded under subtitles C and D, through interagency agreements or other mechanisms, collaborated with the entity funded under this subtitle in the State, each other, and other entities to contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle; and
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<td>26.</td>
<td>(E) the rationale for the goals related to advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change to be undertaken by the Council to contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle.</td>
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<td>(4) PLAN GOALS.</td>
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<td>27.</td>
<td>(A) specifying 5-year goals, as developed through data driven strategic planning, for advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change related to the areas of emphasis, to be undertaken by the Council, that-</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>(i) are derived from the unmet needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families identified under paragraph (3); and</td>
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<td>(ii) include a goal, for each year of the grant, to-</td>
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<td>30.</td>
<td>(I) establish or strengthen a program for the direct funding of a State self-advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities;</td>
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<td>31.</td>
<td>(II) support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders; and</td>
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<td>32.</td>
<td>(III) support and expand participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions; and</td>
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<td>33.</td>
<td>(B) for each year of the grant, describing (i) the goals to be achieved through the grant, which, beginning in fiscal year 2002, shall be consistent with applicable indicators of progress described in section 104(a)(3);</td>
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<td>34.</td>
<td>(ii) the strategies to be used in achieving each goal; and</td>
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<td>35.</td>
<td>(iii) the method to be used to determine if each goal has been achieved.</td>
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(5) ASSURANCES.

36. (A) IN GENERAL. The plan shall contain or be supported by assurances and information described in subparagraphs (B) through (N) that are satisfactory to the Secretary.

(B) USE OF FUNDS.

37. (i) not less than 70 percent of such funds will be expended for activities related to the goals described in paragraph (4);

38. (ii) such funds will contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle in various political subdivisions of the State;

39. (iii) such funds will be used to supplement, and not supplant, the non-Federal funds that would otherwise be made available for the purposes for which the funds paid under section 122 are provided;

40. (iv) such funds will be used to complement and augment rather than duplicate or replace services for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families who are eligible for Federal assistance under other State programs;

41. (v) part of such funds will be made available by the State to public or private entities;

42. (vi) at the request of any State, a portion of such funds provided to such State under this subtitle for any fiscal year shall be available to pay up to 1/2 (or the entire amount if the Council is the designated State agency) of the expenditures found to be necessary by the Secretary for the proper and efficient exercise of the functions of the designated State agency, except that not more than 5 percent of such funds provided to such State for any fiscal year, or $50,000, whichever is less, shall be made available for total expenditures for such purpose by the designated State agency; and

43. (vii) not more than 20 percent of such funds will be allocated to the designated State agency for service demonstrations by such agency that-
44. (I) contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle; and

45. (II) are explicitly authorized by the Council.

46. (C) STATE FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION. The plan shall provide assurances that there will be reasonable State financial participation in the cost of carrying out the plan.

47. (D) CONFLICT OF INTEREST. The plan shall provide an assurance that no member of such Council will cast a vote on any matter that would provide direct financial benefit to the member or otherwise give the appearance of a conflict of interest.

48. (E) URBAN AND RURAL POVERTY AREAS. The plan shall provide assurances that special financial and technical assistance will be given to organizations that provide community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance to individuals with developmental disabilities who live in areas designated as urban or rural poverty areas.

49. (F) PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS. The plan shall provide assurances that programs, projects, and activities funded under the plan, and the buildings in which such programs, projects, and activities are operated, will meet standards prescribed by the Secretary in regulations and all applicable Federal and State accessibility standards, including accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d), and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.).
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50. (G) INDIVIDUALIZED SERVICES. The plan shall provide assurances that any direct services provided to individuals with developmental disabilities and funded under the plan will be provided in an individualized manner, consistent with the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and capabilities of such individual.

51. (H) HUMAN RIGHTS. The plan shall provide assurances that the human rights of the individuals with developmental disabilities (especially individuals without familial protection) who are receiving services under programs assisted under this subtitle will be protected consistent with section 109 (relating to rights of individuals with developmental disabilities).

52. (J) MINORITY PARTICIPATION. The plan shall provide assurances that the State has taken affirmative steps to assure that participation in programs funded under this subtitle is geographically representative of the State, and reflects the diversity of the State with respect to race and ethnicity.

53. (J) EMPLOYEE PROTECTIONS. The plan shall provide assurances that fair and equitable arrangements (as determined by the Secretary after consultation with the Secretary of Labor) will be provided to protect the interests of employees affected by actions taken under the plan to provide community living activities, including arrangements designed to preserve employee rights and benefits and provide training and retraining of such employees where necessary, and arrangements under which maximum efforts will be made to guarantee the employment of such employees.
54. (k) STAFF ASSIGNMENTS. The plan shall provide assurances that the staff and other personnel of the Council, while working for the Council, will be responsible solely for assisting the Council in carrying out the duties of the Council under this subtitle and will not be assigned duties by the designated State agency, or any other agency, office, or entity of the State.

55. (l) NONINTERFERENCE. The plan shall provide assurances that the designated State agency, and any other agency, office, or entity of the State, will not interfere with the advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities, budget, personnel, State plan development, or plan implementation of the Council, except that the designated State agency shall have the authority necessary to carry out the responsibilities described in section 125(d)(3).

56. (m) STATE QUALITY ASSURANCE. The plan shall provide assurances that the Council will participate in the planning, design or redesign, and monitoring of State quality assurance systems that affect individuals with developmental disabilities.

57. (n) OTHER ASSURANCES. The plan shall contain such additional information and assurances as the Secretary may find necessary to carry out the provisions (including the purpose) of this subtitle.

(d) PUBLIC INPUT AND REVIEW, SUBMISSION, AND APPROVAL.

58. (1) PUBLIC INPUT AND REVIEW. The plan shall be based on public input. The Council shall make the plan available for public review and comment, after providing appropriate and sufficient notice in accessible formats of the opportunity for such review and comment. The Council shall revise the plan to take into account and respond to significant comments.
59. (2) CONSULTATION WITH THE DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY. Before the plan is submitted to the Secretary, the Council shall consult with the designated State agency to ensure that the State plan is consistent with State law and to obtain appropriate State plan assurances.

SEC. 125. STATE COUNCILS ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES & DESIGNATED STATE AGENCIES.

60. (a) IN GENERAL. Each State that receives assistance under this subtitle shall establish and maintain a Council to undertake advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities (consistent with subsections (b) and (c) of section 101) that contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered, consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive system of community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle. The Council shall have the authority to fulfill the responsibilities described in subsection (c).

(b) COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP.

(1) COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

61. (A) IN GENERAL. The members of the Council of a State shall be appointed by the Governor of the State from among the residents of that State.

62. (B) RECOMMENDATIONS. The Governor shall select members of the Council, at the discretion of the Governor, after soliciting recommendations from organizations representing a broad range of individuals with developmental disabilities and individuals interested in individuals with developmental disabilities, including the non-State agency members of the Council. The Council may, at the initiative of the Council, or on the
request of the Governor, coordinate Council and public input to the Governor regarding all recommendations.

63. (C) REPRESENTATION. The membership of the Council shall be geographically representative of the State and reflect the diversity of the State with respect to race and ethnicity.

64. (2) MEMBERSHIP ROTATION. The Governor shall make appropriate provisions to rotate the membership of the Council. Such provisions shall allow members to continue to serve on the Council until such members' successors are appointed.

65. The Council shall notify the Governor regarding membership requirements of the Council, and shall notify the Governor when vacancies on the Council remain unfilled for a significant period of time.

66. (3) REPRESENTATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES. Not less than 60 percent of the membership of each Council shall consist of individuals who are-

67. (A)(i) individuals with developmental disabilities;

68. (ii) parents or guardians of children with developmental disabilities; or

69. (iii) immediate relatives or guardians of adults with mentally impairing developmental disabilities who cannot advocate for themselves; and

70. (B) not employees of a State agency that receives funds or provides services under this subtitle, and who are not managing employees (as defined in section 1126(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-5(b)) of any other entity that receives funds or provides services under this subtitle.
(4) REPRESENTATION OF AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

71. (i) representatives of relevant State entities, including-


73. (II) Centers in the State; and

74. (III) the State protection and advocacy system; and

75. (ii) representatives, at all times, of local and non-governmental agencies, and private nonprofit groups concerned with services for individuals with developmental disabilities in the State in which such agencies and groups are located.

(B) AUTHORITY AND LIMITATIONS-
The representatives described in subparagraph (A) shall-

76. (i) have sufficient authority to engage in policy planning and implementation on behalf of the department, agency, or program such representatives represent; and

77. (ii) recuse themselves from any discussion of grants or contracts for which such representatives' departments, agencies, or programs are grantees, contractors, or applicants and comply with the conflict of interest assurance requirement under section 124(c)(5)(D).
(5) COMPOSITION OF MEMBERSHIP WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

78. (A) 1/3 shall be individuals with developmental disabilities described in paragraph (3)(A)(i);
79. (B) 1/3 shall be parents or guardians of children with developmental disabilities described in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), or immediate relatives or guardians of adults with developmental disabilities described in paragraph (3)(A)(iii); and
80. (C) 1/3 shall be a combination of individuals described in paragraph (3)(A).

(6) INSTITUTIONALIZED INDIVIDUALS.

81. (A) IN GENERAL. Of the members of the Council described in paragraph (5), at least 1 shall be an immediate relative or guardian of an individual with a developmental disability who resides or previously resided in an institution or shall be an individual with a developmental disability who resides or previously resided in an institution.
82. (B) LIMITATION. Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to a State if such an individual does not reside in that State.

(c) COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES.

83. (1) IN GENERAL. A Council, through Council members, staff, consultants, contractors, or subgrantees, shall have the responsibilities described in paragraphs (2) through (10).
84. (3) EXAMINATION OF GOALS. At the end of each grant year, each Council shall (A) determine the extent to which each goal of the Council was achieved for that year;
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<td>85. (B)</td>
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<td>determine to the extent that each goal was not achieved, the factors that impeded the achievement;</td>
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<td>86. (C)</td>
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<td>determine needs that require amendment of the 5-year strategic State plan required under section 124;</td>
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<td>87. (D)</td>
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<td>separately determine the information on the self-advocacy goal described in section 124(c)(4)(A)(ii); and</td>
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<td>88. (E)</td>
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<td>determine customer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities.</td>
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<td>89. (4) STATE PLAN DEVELOPMENT.</td>
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<td>The Council shall develop the State plan and submit the State plan to the Secretary after consultation with the designated State agency under the State plan. Such consultation shall be solely for the purposes of obtaining State assurances and ensuring consistency of the plan with State law.</td>
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<td>(5) STATE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION.</td>
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<td>90. (B) OUTREACH.</td>
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<td>The Council may support and conduct outreach activities to identify individuals with developmental disabilities and their families who otherwise might not come to the attention of the Council and assist and enable the individuals and families to obtain services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance, including access to special adaptation of generic community services or specialized services.</td>
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<td>91. (C) TRAINING.</td>
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<td>The Council may support and conduct training for persons who are individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and personnel (including professionals, paraprofessionals, students, volunteers, and other community members) to enable such persons to obtain access to, or to provide, community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance, including special adaptation of generic community services or specialized services for</td>
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individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. To the extent that the Council supports or conducts training activities under this subparagraph, such activities shall contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle.

92. (D) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. The Council may support and conduct technical assistance activities to assist public and private entities to contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle.

93. (E) SUPPORTING AND EDUCATING COMMUNITIES. The Council may support and conduct activities to assist neighborhoods and communities to respond positively to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

94. (i) by encouraging local networks to provide informal and formal supports;

95. (ii) through education; and

96. (iii) by enabling neighborhoods and communities to offer such individuals and their families access to and use of services, resources, and opportunities.

97. (F) INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION. The Council may support and conduct activities to promote interagency collaboration and coordination to better serve, support, assist, or advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

98. (G) COORDINATION WITH RELATED COUNCILS, COMMITTEES, AND PROGRAMS. The Council may support and conduct activities to enhance coordination of services with:

99. (i) other councils, entities, or committees, authorized by Federal or State law, concerning individuals with disabilities (such as the State interagency coordinating council established under subtitle C of the Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Self Assessment 15
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<td>Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.), the State Rehabilitation Council and the Statewide Independent Living Council established under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 3011, 3012), and entities carrying out other similar councils, entities, or committees);</td>
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<td><strong>100. (ii)</strong> parent training and information centers under part D of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) and other entities carrying out federally funded projects that assist parents of children with disabilities; and</td>
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<td><strong>101. (iii)</strong> other groups interested in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities to benefit individuals with disabilities.</td>
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<td><strong>102. (H) BARRIER ELIMINATION, SYSTEMS DESIGN AND REDESIGN.</strong> The Council may support and conduct activities to eliminate barriers to access and use of community services by individuals with developmental disabilities, enhance systems design and redesign, and enhance citizen participation to address issues identified in the State plan.</td>
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<td><strong>103. (I) COALITION DEVELOPMENT AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION.</strong> The Council may support and conduct activities to educate the public about the capabilities, preferences, and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and to develop and support coalitions that support the policy agenda of the Council, including training in self-advocacy, education of policymakers, and citizen leadership skills.</td>
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<td><strong>104. (J) INFORMING POLICYMAKERS.</strong> The Council may support and conduct activities to provide information to policymakers by supporting and conducting studies and analyses, gathering information, and developing and disseminating model policies and procedures, information, approaches, strategies, findings, conclusions, and recommendations. The Council may provide the information directly to Federal, State, and</td>
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local policymakers, including Congress, the Federal executive branch, the Governors, State legislatures, and State agencies, in order to increase the ability of such policymakers to offer opportunities and to enhance or adapt generic services to meet the needs of, or provide specialized services to, individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

(K) DEMONSTRATION OF NEW APPROACHES TO SERVICES AND SUPPORTS.

105. (i) IN GENERAL. The Council may support and conduct, on a time-limited basis, activities to demonstrate new approaches to serving individuals with developmental disabilities that are a part of an overall strategy for systemic change. The strategy may involve the education of policymakers and the public about how to deliver effectively, to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, services, supports, and assistance that contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle.

106. (ii) SOURCES OF FUNDING. The Council may carry out this subparagraph by supporting and conducting demonstration activities through sources of funding other than funding provided under this subtitle, and by assisting entities conducting demonstration activities to develop strategies for securing funding from other sources.

107. (L) OTHER ACTIVITIES. The Council may support and conduct other advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities to promote the development of a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered, consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive system of community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle.
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<td><strong>108.</strong> (6) REVIEW OF DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY. The Council shall periodically review the designated State agency and activities carried out under this subtitle by the designated State agency and make any recommendations for change to the Governor.</td>
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<td><strong>109.</strong> (7) REPORTS. Beginning in fiscal year 2002, the Council shall annually prepare and transmit to the Secretary a report. Each report shall be in a form prescribed by the Secretary by regulation under section 104(b). Each report shall contain information about the progress made by the Council in achieving the goals of the Council (as specified in section 124(c)(4)), including-</td>
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<td><strong>110.</strong> (A) a description of the extent to which the goals were achieved;</td>
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<td><strong>111.</strong> (B) a description of the strategies that contributed to achieving the goals;</td>
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<td><strong>112.</strong> (C) to the extent to which the goals were not achieved, a description of factors that impeded the achievement;</td>
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<td><strong>113.</strong> (D) separate information on the self-advocacy goal described in section 124(c)(4)(A)(ii);</td>
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<td><strong>114.</strong> (E)(i) as appropriate, an update on the results of the comprehensive review and analysis described in section 124(c)(3); and</td>
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<td><strong>115.</strong> (ii) information on consumer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities;</td>
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<td><strong>116.</strong> (F)(i) a description of the adequacy of health care and other services, supports, and assistance that individuals with developmental disabilities in Intermediate Care Facilities (Mental Retardation) receive; and</td>
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<td><strong>117.</strong> (ii) a description of the adequacy of health care and other services, supports, and assistance that individuals with developmental disabilities served through home and community-based waivers (authorized under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396n(c)) receive;</td>
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Developmental Disabilities Self Assessment
118. (G) an accounting of the manner in which funds paid to the State under this subtitle for a fiscal year were expended;

(H) a description of—

119. (i) resources made available to carry out activities to assist individuals with developmental disabilities that are directly attributable to Council actions;

120. (ii) resources made available for such activities that are undertaken by the Council in collaboration with other entities; and

121. (I) a description of the method by which the Council will widely disseminate the annual report to affected constituencies and the general public and will assure that the report is available in accessible formats.

122. (8) BUDGET. Each Council shall prepare, approve, and implement a budget using amounts paid to the State under this subtitle to fund and implement all programs, projects, and activities carried out under this subtitle, including—

123. (A)(i) conducting such hearings and forums as the Council may determine to be necessary to carry out the duties of the Council; and

124. (ii) as determined in Council policy—(I) reimbursing members of the Council for reasonable and necessary expenses (including expenses for child care and personal assistance services) for attending Council meetings and performing Council duties;

125. (II) paying a stipend to a member of the Council, if such member is not employed or must forfeit wages from other employment, to attend Council meetings and perform other Council duties;

126. (III) supporting Council member and staff travel to authorized training and technical assistance activities including in-service training and leadership development activities; and
127. (IV) carrying out appropriate sub-contracting activities;

128. (B) hiring and maintaining such numbers and types of staff (qualified by training and experience) and obtaining the services of such professional, consulting, technical, and clerical staff (qualified by training and experience), consistent with State law, as the Council determines to be necessary to carry out the functions of the Council under this subtitle,

129. except that such State shall not apply hiring freezes, reductions in force, prohibitions on travel, or other policies to the staff of the Council, to the extent that such policies would impact the staff or functions funded with Federal funds, or would prevent the Council from carrying out the functions of the Council under this subtitle; and

130. (C) directing the expenditure of funds for grants, contracts, interagency agreements that are binding contracts, and other activities authorized by the State plan approved under section 124.

131. (9) STAFF HIRING AND SUPERVISION. The Council shall, consistent with State law, recruit and hire a Director of the Council, should the position of Director become vacant, and supervise and annually evaluate the Director. The Director shall hire, supervise, and annually evaluate the staff of the Council. Council recruitment, hiring, and dismissal of staff shall be conducted in a manner consistent with Federal and State nondiscrimination laws. Dismissal of personnel shall be conducted in a manner consistent with State law and personnel policies.
132. (10) STAFF ASSIGNMENTS. The staff of the Council, while working for the Council, shall be responsible solely for assisting the Council in carrying out the duties of the Council under this subtitle and shall not be assigned duties by the designated State agency or any other agency or entity of the State.

133. (11) CONSTRUCTION. Nothing in this title shall be construed to authorize a Council to direct, control, or exercise any policymaking authority or administrative authority over any program assisted under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.) or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.).

(d) DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY.

134. (1) IN GENERAL. Each State that receives assistance under this subtitle shall designate a State agency that shall, on behalf of the State, provide support to the Council. After the date of enactment of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1994 (Public Law 103-230), any designation of a State agency under this paragraph shall be made in accordance with the requirements of this subsection.

(2) DESIGNATION.

(A) TYPE OF AGENCY—Except as provided in this subsection, the designated state agency shall be—

135. (i) the Council if such Council may be the designated State agency under the laws of the State;

136. (ii) a State agency that does not provide or pay for services for individuals with developmental disabilities; or

137. (iii) a State office, including the immediate office of the Governor of the State or a State planning office.
(B) CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF STATE SERVICE AGENCY DESIGNATION.

138. (i) DESIGNATION BEFORE ENACTMENT. If a State agency that provides or pays for services for individuals with developmental disabilities was a designated State agency for purposes of part B of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act on the date of enactment of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1994, and the Governor of the State (or the legislature, where appropriate and in accordance with State law) determines prior to June 30, 1994, not to change the designation of such agency, such agency may continue to be a designated State agency for purposes of this subtitle.

139. (ii) CRITERIA FOR CONTINUED DESIGNATION. The determination, at the discretion of the Governor (or the legislature, as the case may be), shall be made after-

140. (I) the Governor has considered the comments and recommendations of the general public and a majority of the non-State agency members of the Council with respect to the designation of such State agency; and

141. (II) the Governor (or the legislature, as the case may be) has made an independent assessment that the designation of such agency will not interfere with the budget, personnel, priorities, or other action of the Council, and the ability of the Council to serve as an independent advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities.

142. (C) REVIEW OF DESIGNATION. The Council may request a review of and change in the designation of the designated State agency by the Governor (or the legislature, as the case may be). The Council shall provide documentation concerning the reason the Council desires a change to be made and make a recommendation to the Governor (or
the legislature, as the case may be) regarding a preferred designated State agency.

143. (D) APPEAL OF DESIGNATION. After the review is completed under subparagraph (C), a majority of the non-State agency members of the Council may appeal to the Secretary for a review of and change in the designation of the designated State agency if the ability of the Council to serve as an independent advocate is not assured because of the actions or inactions of the designated State agency.

(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.-
144. (A) IN GENERAL. The designated State agency shall, on behalf of the State, have the responsibilities described in subparagraphs (B) through (G).

145. (B) SUPPORT SERVICES. The designated State agency shall provide required assurances and support services as requested by and negotiated with the Council.

(C) FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES-the designated state agency shall-
146. (i) receive, account for, and disburse funds under this subtitle based on the State plan required in section 124; and

147. (ii) provide for such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to assure the proper disbursement of, and accounting for, funds paid to the State under this subtitle.

148. (D) RECORDS, ACCESS, AND FINANCIAL REPORTS. The designated State agency shall keep and provide access to such records as the Secretary and the Council may determine to be necessary. The designated State agency, if other than the Council, shall provide timely financial reports at the request of the Council regarding the status of expenditures, obligations, and liquidation by the agency or the Council, and the use of the Federal and non-Federal shares described in section 126, by the agency or the Council.
149. (E) NON-FEDERAL SHARE. The designated State agency, if other than the Council, shall provide the required non-Federal share described in section 126(c).

150. (F) ASSURANCES. The designated State agency shall assist the Council in obtaining the appropriate State plan assurances and in ensuring that the plan is consistent with State law.

151. (G) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING. On the request of the Council, the designated State agency shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Council delineating the roles and responsibilities of the designated State agency.

(4) USE OF FUNDS FOR DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.

(A) CONDITION FOR FEDERAL FUNDING.

152. (i) IN GENERAL. The Secretary shall provide amounts to a State under section 124(c)(5)(B)(vi) for a fiscal year only if the State expends an amount from State sources for carrying out the responsibilities of the designated State agency under paragraph (3) for the fiscal year that is not less than the total amount the State expended from such sources for carrying out similar responsibilities for the previous fiscal year.

153. (ii) EXCEPTION. Clause (i) shall not apply in a year in which the Council is the designated State agency.

154. (B) SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED BY OTHER AGENCIES. With the agreement of the designated State agency, the Council may use or contract with agencies other than the designated State agency to perform the functions of the designated State agency.
SEC. 126. FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL SHARE.

(a) AGGREGATE COST.

155. (1) IN GENERAL. Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the Federal share of the cost of all projects in a State supported by an allotment to the State under this subtitle may not be more than 75 percent of the aggregate necessary cost of such projects, as determined by the Secretary.

156. (2) URBAN OR RURAL POVERTY AREAS. In the case of projects whose activities or products target individuals with developmental disabilities who live in urban or rural poverty areas, as determined by the Secretary, the Federal share of the cost of all such projects may not be more than 90 percent of the aggregate necessary cost of such projects, as determined by the Secretary.

157. (3) STATE PLAN ACTIVITIES. In the case of projects undertaken by the Council or Council staff to implement State plan activities, the Federal share of the cost of all such projects may be not more than 100 percent of the aggregate necessary cost of such activities.

158. (b) NONDUPPLICATION. In determining the amount of any State's Federal share of the cost of such projects incurred by such State under a State plan approved under section 124, the Secretary shall not consider-

159. (1) any portion of such cost that is financed by Federal funds provided under any provision of law other than section 122; and the amount of any non-Federal funds required to be expended as a condition of receipt of the Federal funds described in paragraph (1).
(c) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.

**160. (1) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.**
The non-Federal share of the cost of any project supported by an allotment under this subtitle may be provided in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including plant, equipment, or services.

**161. (A) IN GENERAL.** Contributions to projects by a political subdivision of a State or by a public or private entity under an agreement with the State shall, subject to such limitations and conditions as the Secretary may by regulation prescribe under section 104(b), be considered to be contributions by such State, in the case of a project supported under this subtitle.

**162. (B) STATE CONTRIBUTIONS.** State contributions, including contributions by the designated State agency to provide support services to the Council pursuant to section 125(d)(4), may be counted as part of such State’s non-Federal share of the cost of projects supported under this subtitle.

**163. (3) VARIATIONS OF THE NON-FEDERAL SHARE.** The non-Federal share required of each recipient of a grant from a Council under this subtitle may vary.
Council Self Assessment Team Verification

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Date