Title IV-E Waiver
House Health Care Appropriations Committee

Presented by:
Steven J. Murphy, President and CEO
Partnership for Strong Families

Don Winstead, Deputy Secretary
Department of Children and Families

January 12, 2006
Key Points

- Federal child welfare funding is inconsistent with statutory goals and good casework practice:
  - Emphasizes out of home care
  - Complex eligibility rules
  - Inflexible funding restrictions
  - Emphasizes process rather than outcomes
The Proposal in Brief

• **The Proposal in Brief**
  - Permit IV-E foster care funds to be used for any child welfare purpose.
  - Includes prevention, diversion from out-of-home care, intensive in-home services, reunification and permanency as well as for out-of-home care.
  - Receive a defined amount of federal funds over 5 years based on what state would have received under IV-E rules.
  - Evaluate success based on outcomes
A Continuum of Services & Funds - Current

From:
Money Follows the Federal Requirements

Prevention  In-Home Services  Other Out-of-Home Care  Relative Caregiver  Services toward Adoption and Other Permanency Options

IV-E Foster Care  IV-E Adoptions

Reunification  Permanency
A Continuum of Services & Funds - Proposed

To: Money Follows the Child

Prevention

In-Home Services

Other Out-of-Home Care

Relative Caregiver

Services toward Adoption and Other Permanency Options

IV-E Foster Care

IV-E Adoptions

Reunification

Permanency
Federal Funding SFY 2005 – 2006
All Child Welfare Programs

- Title IV-E Foster Care
- Title IV-E Adoptions
- Title IV-E SACWIS
- Chafee/ETV
- Promoting Safe and Stable Families
- Title IV-B Child Welfare Services
- All Other Child Welfare Funding
- TANF
- SSBG (including SSBG transferred from TANF)
- Other federal funds
IV-E Foster Care Funding Compared to Other Child Welfare Funding*

* Does not include TANF, SSBG, Adoptions or Chafee/ETV Funding
Children in Licensed Out-of-Home Care By Fiscal Year

Based on children in state custody reports
Advantages

- Aligns funding incentives with program goals and good practice.
- Reductions in high-cost out-of-home care can be invested in services.
- Provides savings in administration and eligibility.
Risks and Mitigation

• Unanticipated increase in foster care caseload.
• Congressional action that changes the statutory framework
• To mitigate these risks, the proposal includes a one-time option for the state to terminate the demonstration if continuation is contrary to the interest of the state and an option to terminate the demonstration if federal legislation is enacted.
Examples of How Families Could Better Be Served

- More children could stay with their families through the provision of intensive in home services.
- Placement and service decisions will be based on the least restrictive setting versus funding source.
- Families will get the service mix they need instead of the program we have available.
- More families will be involved in their own case planning due to providing services in the least restrictive setting.