

### **Stabenow Amendment C-6 to the Chairman's Mark**

**Short title/purpose:** To ensure high quality, specialized care for children and youth with special medical, psychological, social and emotional needs who can accept and respond to the close relationships within a family setting, but whose special needs require more intensive or therapeutic services than are found in traditional foster care

**Description of Amendment:** This amendment would create a rule of construction that nothing in section 1905(a) of the Social Security Act shall be construed as limiting a State from covering therapeutic foster care for eligible children in out-of-home placements.

The amendment would also provide a statutory definition of therapeutic foster care as a foster care program that provides to the eligible child structured daily activities that develop, improve, monitor, and reinforce age-appropriate social, communications, and behavioral skills; crisis intervention and crisis support services; medication monitoring; counseling; and case management services. Additionally, therapeutic foster care would include specialized training for the foster parent and consultation with the foster parent on the management of children with mental illnesses and related health and developmental conditions.

**Offset:** To be determined if this language does score. Similar language was included in the House Energy and Commerce legislation.

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