

By Senator Turner

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to education; providing that
state-funded education and care programs for
infants and toddlers must foster brain
development; requiring an evaluation and a
report; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, at birth, a child has one hundred billion
brain cells that will be developed by the experiences of life,
and

WHEREAS, the stimulation that causes brain development
can be positive, such as conversation, music, and parental
love, or it can be negative, such as neglect or emotional and
physical abuse, and

WHEREAS, during the first year of a child's life the
connections between the cells, the synapses, increase
twenty-fold, making the first year a crucial time for brain
development, and

WHEREAS, infants develop synapses when they listen to
language and music, see colors and shapes, and feel and handle
objects of different sizes, shapes, and textures, and

WHEREAS, there is no other time in a child's life as
productive for brain development as the first year, NOW
THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Each state-funded education and care
program for children from birth to 5 years of age must provide
activities to foster brain development in infants and
toddlers. A program must provide an environment rich in

