

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_ (for drafter's use only)

|   | <u>Senate</u> | CHAMBER ACTION | <u>House</u> |
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Representative(s) Frankel offered the following:

**Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 21, between lines 14 and 15,

insert:

Section 4. Institutes of Excellence in Infant and Toddler Development.--

(1) The Legislature recognizes the importance of preschool developmental education for children from birth to kindergarten age. Therefore, the Legislature authorizes community colleges and public or private colleges and universities to establish Institutes of Excellence in Infant and Toddler Development. Initiatives of Institutes of Excellence are to be consistent with legislative initiatives relating to school readiness, address specific concerns of children from birth to age 3, and link directly with other efforts in the community, including Head Start, Healthy Start and Healthy Families, subsidized child care, and Caring for Kids. Legislative funding will enable institutes to serve as model demonstration and resource development programs in the

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1 community for the development of professional child care  
2 providers and for the enhancement of knowledge on the part of  
3 providers, related professionals and parents regarding the  
4 development of children from birth to age 3.

5 (2) Institutes of Excellence in Infant and Toddler  
6 Development may be established by community colleges and  
7 public or private colleges and universities. Initial  
8 designation of community colleges and public or private  
9 colleges and universities authorized to establish an Institute  
10 of Excellence shall be provided by the Legislature in the  
11 General Appropriations Act. During the 2000-2001 fiscal year,  
12 and thereafter, community colleges and public or private  
13 colleges and universities shall submit to the Secretary of  
14 Health and the Commissioner of Education requests for  
15 authorization to establish an Institute of Excellence in  
16 Infant and Toddler Development. The Secretary of Health and  
17 the Commissioner of Education shall review the requests and  
18 submit those that meet guidelines established by the State  
19 Board of Education and the Department of Health to the  
20 Legislature for funding. Institutes of Excellence established  
21 at community colleges which have established child development  
22 training centers, pursuant to 240.382, should be created as  
23 part of that center. Institutes of Excellence may be  
24 established by community colleges or public or private  
25 colleges or universities in cooperation with an institution  
26 which has established a child development training center  
27 according to 240.382.

28 (3) Institutes of Excellence shall perform the  
29 following functions:

30 (a) Outreach efforts, including support for infant and  
31 toddler specialists in the child care coordinating agencies

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1 and other new and existing community training and technical  
2 assistance programs who provide services to child care  
3 providers and parents, and the development of marketing and  
4 outreach materials for trainers, parents, and child care and  
5 related professionals. An institute may also provide  
6 leadership training in conjunction with the Caring for Kids  
7 program to promote quality initiatives, such as accreditation  
8 of centers and family day care homes serving children from  
9 birth to age 5.

10 (b) Development and implementation of observation and  
11 demonstration sites at the community college or university.  
12 Such sites shall be used:

13 1. By the community, including other child care  
14 providers, training providers, and parents, for observations  
15 of a model quality child care environment.

16 2. By related providers to provide quality health care  
17 services, including critical screening for auditory, visual,  
18 and other physical impairments that can impede healthy brain  
19 development.

20 3. As sites to implement efforts that identify early  
21 language acquisition difficulties in infants and toddlers, and  
22 that target interventions for improving early language  
23 development.

24 (c) Development and support of specialized training  
25 courses, systems, and programs in the area of infant and  
26 toddler development from birth to age 3 which include  
27 articulation mechanisms to ensure and promote career ladder  
28 within the educational institution and among other  
29 institutions. Such training shall:

30 1. Be provided for a wide range of existing and  
31 potential child care workers, including economically

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1 disadvantaged citizens.

2 2. Be established as a mechanism to increase the  
3 professional stature of those working in the child care arena.

4 3. Provide leadership development for child care  
5 center directors.

6 4. Include coordinated development and implementation  
7 of distance learning instruction, to provide continuing  
8 education for family providers and parents in their homes or  
9 in centrally located sites such as public libraries or child  
10 care coordinating agencies.

11 (4) Funding shall be included annually in the General  
12 Appropriations Act to provide grants for those Institutes of  
13 Excellence specifically authorized by the Legislature to be  
14 established. Funding for Institutes of Excellence that are  
15 created as part of child development training centers is not  
16 to supplant funding provided according to 240.382 or to be  
17 used for operational costs or facilities currently funded  
18 through that section.

19 (5) Institutes of Excellence must submit to the  
20 Secretary of Health and the Commissioner of Education  
21 evaluations of progress made. Evaluations shall indicate the  
22 number of persons receiving services, the number of community  
23 training and technical assistance programs, the number of  
24 children evaluated and served in model programs, the  
25 effectiveness of articulation agreements, and other  
26 performance measures required by the local readiness council.

27 (6) The Commissioner of Education shall assign to the  
28 Articulation Coordinating Committee the responsibility for  
29 conducting a statewide assessment to determine the extent and  
30 nature of instruction for those who work or are training to  
31 work in the fields of child care and early childhood

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1 education. The Articulation Coordinating Committee shall,  
 2 after completing this assessment, recommend rules that will  
 3 provide for credit to be awarded to those who enroll in and  
 4 complete courses offered by both private and public providers  
 5 of early childhood instruction, including instruction that  
 6 addresses the minimum training requirements for employment in  
 7 the child care field and for attainment of the child  
 8 development associate credential, or its equivalent. Such  
 9 recommendations shall also provide for articulation of  
 10 vocational credit to college credit, and articulation of  
 11 credits earned in an associate in science degree program, or  
 12 an associate in arts specialization course to credit in a  
 13 baccalaureate degree program. The Commissioner of Education  
 14 shall implement the recommendations of the Articulation  
 15 Coordinating Committee through rules adopted by the State  
 16 Board of Education.

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19 ===== T I T L E    A M E N D M E N T =====

20 And the title is amended as follows:

21            On page 2, line 15, after the semicolon,

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23 insert:

24            authorizing the establishment of Institutes of  
 25            Excellence in Infant and Toddler Development;  
 26            specifying functions of Institutes of  
 27            Excellence; providing for funding; requiring  
 28            the submission of annual evaluations; requires  
 29            the Articulation Coordinating Committee to  
 30            conduct an assessment; requires the adoption of  
 31            rules;