

1   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to children with developmental delays;  
 3           amending s. 1003.01, F.S.; revising the definition of  
 4           the term "exceptional student" to include additional  
 5           students with developmental delays; amending s.  
 6           1003.21, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made  
 7           by the act; providing an effective date.

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

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 11           Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
 12           1003.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13           1003.01 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

14           (3)(a) "Exceptional student" means any student who has  
 15           been determined eligible for a special program in accordance  
 16           with rules of the State Board of Education. The term includes  
 17           students who are gifted and students with disabilities who have  
 18           an intellectual disability; autism spectrum disorder; a speech  
 19           impairment; a language impairment; an orthopedic impairment; an  
 20           other health impairment; traumatic brain injury; a visual  
 21           impairment; an emotional or behavioral disability; or a specific  
 22           learning disability, including, but not limited to, dyslexia,  
 23           dyscalculia, or developmental aphasia; students who are deaf or  
 24           hard of hearing or dual sensory impaired; students who are  
 25           hospitalized or homebound; children with developmental delays

26 | ages birth through ~~9 5~~ years or through the student's completion  
 27 | of grade 2, whichever occurs first, or children, ages birth  
 28 | through 2 years, with established conditions that are identified  
 29 | in State Board of Education rules pursuant to s. 1003.21(1)(e).

30 | Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section  
 31 | 1003.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

32 | 1003.21 School attendance.—

33 | (1)

34 | (e) Consistent with rules adopted by the State Board of  
 35 | Education, children with disabilities who have attained the age  
 36 | of 3 years shall be eligible for admission to public special  
 37 | education programs and for related services. Children with  
 38 | disabilities younger than 3 years of age who are deaf or hard of  
 39 | hearing, visually impaired, dual sensory impaired,  
 40 | orthopedically impaired, or other health impaired or who have  
 41 | experienced traumatic brain injury, have autism spectrum  
 42 | disorder, have established conditions, or exhibit developmental  
 43 | delays or intellectual disabilities may be eligible for special  
 44 | programs and may receive services in accordance with rules of  
 45 | the State Board of Education. Rules for the identification of  
 46 | established conditions for children birth through 2 years of age  
 47 | and developmental delays for children birth through 9 5 years of  
 48 | age or through the student's completion of grade 2, whichever  
 49 | occurs first, must be adopted by the State Board of Education.

50 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.