



2013 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 59

November 4, 2013 - Introduced by Senators LASSA, OLSEN, HARRIS, DARLING, LEHMAN, L. TAYLOR, RISSER and C. LARSON, cosponsored by Representatives BALLWEG, PASCH, KESTELL, SARGENT, MASON, JOHNSON, BARNES, WRIGHT, OHNSTAD, GOYKE, WACHS, SPIROS, KRUG and HULSEY. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** early childhood brain development.

2 Whereas, research over the last two decades from the evolving sciences of
3 neuroscience, molecular biology, public health, genomics, and epigenetics reveals
4 that experiences in the first thousand days of life build changes into the biology of
5 the human body, which in turn influence a lifetime of physical and mental health;
6 and

7 Whereas, these early experiences literally shape the physical architecture of a
8 child's developing brain and establish either a sturdy or a fragile foundation for all
9 the learning, health, and behavior that follows; and

10 Whereas, chronic, unrelenting stress in early childhood caused by conditions
11 such as extreme poverty, repeated abuse, neglect, severe maternal depression,
12 parental substance abuse, and violence can be toxic to a child's developing brain; and

13 Whereas, early adversity can result in poor physical and mental health
14 outcomes reverberating well into late adulthood; and

