

First Extraordinary Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

BILLPAPER

LLS NO. 20B-0043.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Young,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Donovan, Bridges

House Committees

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING SUPPORT FOR EXPANDING BROADBAND ACCESS FOR**
102 **PRESCHOOL THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE EDUCATION, AND, IN**
103 **CONNECTION THEREWITH, CREATING THE CONNECTING**
104 **COLORADO STUDENTS GRANT PROGRAM AND MAKING AN**
105 **APPROPRIATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill creates the connecting Colorado students grant program (program) to provide grants to local education providers to use in

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

providing broadband service and other technology for increased internet access for students, educators, and other staff. The program is created in the department of education (department). The department reviews applications and the commissioner of education (commissioner) awards the grants. The department must consult with the office of information technology, the office of economic development, and broadband and education technology experts in reviewing the applications.

The bill specifies the required contents of grant applications, the criteria that the department and the commissioner must consider in reviewing and awarding grants, and criteria for prioritizing applicants. The bill creates the connecting Colorado students grant program fund out of which grants are paid. By February 1, 2021, the department must distribute the money appropriated to the department for the 2020-21 budget year for grants.

Beginning in July 2021, the department must submit to the state board of education, governor, and education committees of the general assembly a report concerning implementation of the program.

By January 10, 2021, the department, in collaboration with the office of information technology and broadband service providers, must develop and make publicly available a list of free or low-cost broadband services and other internet access resources.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** article 103 to
3 title 22 as follows:

4 **ARTICLE 103**

5 **Connecting Colorado Students Grant Program**

6 **22-103-101. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

8 (a) THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS LED MANY SCHOOL DISTRICTS
9 AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS DURING THE 2019-20 AND 2020-21 SCHOOL YEARS
10 TO MOVE BETWEEN PERIODS OF ONLINE INSTRUCTION, IN-PERSON
11 INSTRUCTION, AND A HYBRID OF ONLINE AND IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION;

12 (b) TO LEARN ONLINE, A STUDENT MUST HAVE ACCESS TO
13 ADEQUATE BROADBAND SERVICE THAT ALLOWS FOR ONLINE INSTRUCTION,

1 INCLUDING VIDEO CONFERENCING, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ACCESS
2 NEEDS OF OTHER INTERNET USERS WITHIN THE STUDENT'S HOUSEHOLD;

3 (c) STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCOME BACKGROUNDS, STUDENTS
4 EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, MIGRANT STUDENTS, AND STUDENTS IN
5 FOSTER CARE ARE LESS LIKELY TO HAVE ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED
6 BROADBAND SERVICE;

7 (d) A REPORT DEVELOPED BY THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF
8 EDUCATION AND THE COLORADO EDUCATION INITIATIVE AND RELEASED
9 IN APRIL 2020 FOUND THAT ALMOST SIXTY-SIX THOUSAND PUBLIC SCHOOL
10 STUDENTS IN COLORADO LACK ANY INTERNET ACCESS;

11 (e) WITHOUT ADEQUATE INTERNET ACCESS, STUDENTS ARE LESS
12 LIKELY TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN CLASS, MORE LIKELY TO
13 EXPERIENCE SIGNIFICANT LEARNING LOSS, AND MORE LIKELY TO FALL
14 BEHIND THEIR PEERS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED INTERNET;

15 (f) EDUCATION EXPERTS ESTIMATE THAT, WHILE THE AVERAGE
16 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY STUDENT IS LIKELY TO LOSE SEVEN
17 MONTHS OF LEARNING AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THE
18 LEARNING LOSS IS SIGNIFICANTLY GREATER FOR STUDENTS OF COLOR AND
19 LOW-INCOME STUDENTS: HISPANIC STUDENTS MAY FALL BEHIND BY MORE
20 THAN NINE MONTHS, BLACK STUDENTS BY MORE THAN TEN MONTHS, AND
21 LOW-INCOME STUDENTS BY MORE THAN A YEAR;

22 (g) THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON
23 THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND
24 OTHER STAFF, AND TELEHEALTH SERVICES, COMBINED WITH ADEQUATE
25 BROADBAND SERVICE, CAN HELP INDIVIDUALS ACCESS BEHAVIORAL
26 HEALTH SERVICES IN THEIR HOMES;

27 (h) IN ADDITION TO STUDENTS, MANY EDUCATORS AND OTHER

1 STAFF LACK ADEQUATE BROADBAND SERVICE TO PROVIDE ONLINE
2 INSTRUCTION;

3 (i) BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS ACROSS THE STATE HAVE
4 PROVIDED LOW- AND NO-COST OPTIONS FOR LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS
5 AND FAMILIES TO HELP GET STUDENTS THE ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN
6 ONLINE INSTRUCTION;

7 (j) MANY LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS ARE WORKING
8 COLLABORATIVELY WITH BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS TO DEVELOP
9 INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS INTERNET ACCESS AND CAPACITY,
10 PARTICULARLY IN RURAL COMMUNITIES; AND

11 (k) ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ARE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT
12 EVERY COLORADO STUDENT HAS ACCESS TO THE HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND
13 SERVICE NECESSARY FOR ONLINE INSTRUCTION.

14 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS, THEREFORE, THAT IT IS
15 CRITICAL TO QUICKLY PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR LOCAL EDUCATION
16 PROVIDERS TO USE IN GIVING STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF
17 INCREASED ACCESS TO BROADBAND SERVICE SO THAT STUDENTS MAY
18 BENEFIT FROM ONLINE INSTRUCTION AND SUCCESSFULLY LEARN ONLINE,
19 THEREBY PREVENTING LEARNING LOSS PARTICULARLY FOR LOW-INCOME
20 AND OTHER ACADEMICALLY AT-RISK STUDENTS.

21 **22-103-102. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE 103, UNLESS
22 THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

23 (1) "BROADBAND SERVICE" MEANS ANY COMMUNICATIONS
24 SERVICE HAVING THE CAPACITY TO TRANSMIT DATA TO ENABLE A
25 SUBSCRIBER TO THE SERVICE TO ORIGINATE AND RECEIVE HIGH-QUALITY
26 VOICE, DATA, GRAPHICS, AND VIDEO AT SPEEDS THAT ARE ADEQUATE FOR
27 ONLINE LEARNING FOR EVERY SCHOOL-AGED CHILD IN A HOUSEHOLD AND

1 FOR EDUCATORS OR OTHER STAFF TO PROVIDE ONLINE INSTRUCTION.

2 (2) "COMMISSIONER" MEANS THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
3 APPOINTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION
4 1 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

5 (3) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
6 CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-1-115.

7 (4) "FUND" MEANS THE CONNECTING COLORADO STUDENTS GRANT
8 PROGRAM FUND CREATED IN SECTION 22-103-106.

9 (5) "GRANT" MEANS A GRANT AWARDED THROUGH THE PROGRAM
10 AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 103.

11 (6) "HOMELESSNESS" MEANS THAT A STUDENT LACKS A FIXED,
12 REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE.

13 (7) "INTERNET" MEANS THE INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER NETWORK
14 CONSISTING OF FEDERAL AND NONFEDERAL, INTEROPERABLE,
15 PACKET-CONTROLLED, SWITCHED DATA NETWORKS.

16 (8) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT
17 CREATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 30 OF THIS TITLE 22, A CHARTER SCHOOL
18 AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, THE
19 STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 22-30.5-503,
20 AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF
21 ARTICLE 30.5 OF THIS TITLE 22, A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES
22 CREATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF THIS TITLE 22, OR AN INDIAN TRIBE
23 OR NATION THAT OPERATES A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN COLORADO.

24 (9) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE CONNECTING COLORADO STUDENTS
25 GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN THIS ARTICLE 103.

26 **22-103-103. Connecting Colorado students grant program -**
27 **created - application - awards.** (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE

1 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE CONNECTING COLORADO STUDENTS
2 GRANT PROGRAM TO AWARD GRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO
3 INCREASE ACCESS TO BROADBAND SERVICE FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS,
4 AND OTHER STAFF WHO LACK STABLE, RELIABLE INTERNET ACCESS FOR
5 ONLINE LEARNING AND THEREBY ENABLE EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS TO
6 TEACH AND LEARN ONLINE. A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT
7 RECEIVES A GRANT SHALL USE THE GRANT MONEY TO MEET THE INTERNET
8 ACCESS NEEDS OF ITS STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF, WHICH
9 MAY INCLUDE:

10 (a) IMPROVING INTERNET ACCESS FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND
11 OTHER STAFF, WHICH MAY INCLUDE:

12 (I) SUBSCRIBING FOR BROADBAND SERVICE TO PROVIDE INTERNET
13 ACCESS FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF;

14 (II) PROVIDING DEVICES TO ACCESS THE INTERNET;

15 (III) PURCHASING DATA PLANS FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND
16 OTHER STAFF; AND

17 (IV) INCREASING THE AVAILABILITY OF INTERNET ACCESS USING
18 WIRELESS FIDELITY, OR WI-FI, ANTENNAS; MOBILE HOTSPOTS; SATELLITE
19 CONNECTIONS; OR OTHER COMPARABLE DATA TRANSMISSION
20 TECHNOLOGIES; AND

21 (b) ADDRESSING BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS IN
22 COMMUNITIES IN WHICH BROADBAND SERVICE IS SIGNIFICANTLY LIMITED
23 OR NOT AVAILABLE.

24 (2) TO OBTAIN A GRANT, A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER MUST
25 SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT. EACH APPLICATION
26 MUST INCLUDE:

27 (a) A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS

1 CONSULTED WITH EDUCATORS AND OTHER SCHOOL-LEVEL AND
2 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AND WITH BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS IN
3 PREPARING THE APPLICATION;

4 (b) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING ANY FREE
5 RESOURCES, THAT THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS PREVIOUSLY
6 ACCESSED TO PROVIDE INTERNET ACCESS FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS,
7 AND OTHER STAFF;

8 (c) A DESCRIPTION OF THE BROADBAND SERVICE THAT THE LOCAL
9 EDUCATION PROVIDER MAKES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND
10 OTHER STAFF AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION, INCLUDING THE USE OF FREE
11 RESOURCES;

12 (d) A DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERNET ACCESS NEEDS OF STUDENTS,
13 EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF THAT ARE NECESSARY TO ENABLE
14 EFFECTIVE ONLINE TEACHING AND LEARNING AND THAT THE LOCAL
15 EDUCATION PROVIDER IS UNABLE TO MEET AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION;

16 (e) THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER'S PROPOSED PLAN TO MEET
17 THE INTERNET ACCESS NEEDS OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER
18 STAFF, INCLUDING WHETHER THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER IS SEEKING
19 TO IMPROVE INTERNET ACCESS AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS
20 SECTION OR ADDRESSING BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS AS
21 PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION AND WHETHER THE
22 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER IS PARTNERING OR PLANNING TO PARTNER
23 WITH ONE OR MORE BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS;

24 (f) AN ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE BROADBAND SERVICE
25 AND, IF INCLUDED IN THE GRANT APPLICATION, DEVICES TO ACCESS THE
26 INTERNET, INCLUDING THE QUANTITY AND COST PER UNIT, THAT THE
27 LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER REQUIRES TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT INTERNET

1 ACCESS FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF TO ENABLE
2 EFFECTIVE ONLINE TEACHING AND LEARNING;

3 (g) THE NUMBER AND OVERALL PERCENTAGES OF STUDENTS,
4 EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF IN THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER'S
5 COMMUNITY OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND STAFF WHO WILL RECEIVE
6 IMPROVED INTERNET ACCESS AS A RESULT OF THE PROPOSED USE OF A
7 GRANT;

8 (h) THE BANDWIDTH SPEED OF THE BROADBAND SERVICE AND OF
9 THE INTERNET-ACCESS DEVICES, IF ANY, THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO
10 STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF AS A RESULT OF THE GRANT,
11 INCLUDING THE UPLOAD AND DOWNLOAD SPEEDS; AND

12 (i) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE
13 DEPARTMENT.

14 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
15 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND RECOMMEND APPLICANTS AND GRANT
16 AMOUNTS TO THE COMMISSIONER. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE
17 APPROPRIATIONS, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL AWARD THE GRANTS AND
18 DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
19 CONSULT WITH THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CREATED IN
20 SECTION 24-37.5-103, THE COLORADO OFFICE OF ECONOMIC
21 DEVELOPMENT CREATED IN SECTION 24-48.5-101, BROADBAND SERVICE
22 EXPERTS, AND EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY EXPERTS WHEN REVIEWING
23 APPLICATIONS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PAY THE GRANTS FROM MONEY
24 AVAILABLE IN THE FUND. IN REVIEWING AND AWARDING GRANTS, THE
25 DEPARTMENT AND THE COMMISSIONER SHALL CONSIDER:

26 (a) THE DEGREE TO WHICH AN APPLYING LOCAL EDUCATION
27 PROVIDER HAS WORKED WITH BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS TO TAKE

1 ADVANTAGE OF LOW- OR NO-COST OPTIONS FOR PROVIDING INTERNET
2 ACCESS TO STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF BEFORE SEEKING A
3 GRANT;

4 (b) THE MANNER IN WHICH THE APPLYING LOCAL EDUCATION
5 PROVIDER PRIORITIZES STUDENTS WHO ARE MOST AT RISK OF LEARNING
6 LOSS WHEN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ARE PROVIDED THROUGH THE
7 INTERNET, INCLUDING STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS,
8 STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE, MIGRANT STUDENTS, STUDENTS WHO LACK
9 ACCESS TO BROADBAND SERVICE, AND HIGHLY MOBILE STUDENTS;

10 (c) IF THE APPLICANT IS A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR A BOARD OF
11 COOPERATIVE SERVICES, THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE APPLYING LOCAL
12 EDUCATION PROVIDER'S PROPOSED USE OF A GRANT REPRESENTS A
13 LONG-TERM, SUSTAINABLE IMPROVEMENT IN THE LEVEL OF INTERNET
14 ACCESS AVAILABLE TO ALL OF THE SCHOOLS WITHIN THE APPLYING
15 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR WITHIN ALL OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT ARE
16 MEMBERS OF OR PURCHASE SERVICES FROM THE APPLYING BOARD OF
17 COOPERATIVE SERVICES; AND

18 (d) THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE APPLYING LOCAL EDUCATION
19 PROVIDER HAS ACCESS TO OTHER FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO USE IN
20 PROVIDING INTERNET ACCESS TO STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER
21 STAFF.

22 (4) IN RECOMMENDING AND AWARDED GRANTS, THE DEPARTMENT
23 AND THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PRIORITIZE:

24 (a) LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS THAT, FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL
25 YEAR, SERVED A STUDENT POPULATION THAT INCLUDED A HIGH
26 PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO WERE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR
27 REDUCED-PRICE MEALS UNDER THE FEDERAL "RICHARD B. RUSSELL

1 NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1751 ET SEQ.; AND

2 (b) LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS THAT SERVE A STUDENT
3 POPULATION THAT INCLUDES A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WITH
4 LITTLE OR NO ACCESS TO BROADBAND SERVICE, AS DETERMINED USING
5 BROADBAND SERVICE SUBSCRIPTION PERCENTAGE ESTIMATES AVAILABLE
6 FROM THE UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU'S AMERICAN COMMUNITY
7 SURVEY.

8 (5) BY FEBRUARY 1, 2021, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE
9 AS GRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS THE ENTIRE AMOUNT
10 APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND FOR THE 2020-21 BUDGET YEAR, LESS THE
11 AMOUNT ALLOWED FOR EXPENSES.

12 **22-103-104. Report.** (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 15, 2021, THE
13 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE STATE BOARD OF
14 EDUCATION, GOVERNOR, AND EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE
15 AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES,
16 CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM. AFTER THE INITIAL
17 REPORT, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE SAME PARTIES
18 WITHIN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE END OF A BUDGET YEAR IN WHICH THE
19 DEPARTMENT AWARDS ONE OR MORE GRANTS. AT A MINIMUM, THE
20 REPORT MUST DESCRIBE:

21 (a) THE NUMBER OF LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS THAT APPLIED
22 FOR A GRANT AND THE NUMBER OF LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS THAT
23 RECEIVED A GRANT;

24 (b) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AND THE NUMBER OF EDUCATORS
25 AND OTHER STAFF WHO RECEIVED IMPROVED INTERNET ACCESS AS A
26 RESULT OF THE USE OF GRANTS;

27 (c) A DESCRIPTION OF THE USE OF THE GRANTS IN PROVIDING

1 BROADBAND SERVICE AND IMPROVED INTERNET ACCESS;

2 (d) A DESCRIPTION OF INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS THAT OTHER LOCAL
3 EDUCATION PROVIDERS MAY IMPLEMENT TO IMPROVE INTERNET ACCESS
4 FOR THEIR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF; AND

5 (e) OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
6 PROGRAM THAT DEMONSTRATES THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PROGRAM IS
7 OR IS NOT EFFECTIVE IN IMPROVING INTERNET ACCESS FOR STUDENTS,
8 EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

9 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SOLICIT, AND EACH LOCAL
10 EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVES A GRANT SHALL PROVIDE, SUCH
11 INFORMATION AS IS NECESSARY TO PREPARE THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN
12 THIS SECTION.

13 (3) NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENT IN SECTION 24-1-136
14 (11)(a)(I), THE REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT THE REPORT DESCRIBED IN THIS
15 SECTION CONTINUES INDEFINITELY.

16 **22-103-105. Broadband service resources for local education**
17 **providers - public list.** THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
18 OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CREATED IN SECTION 24-37.5-103
19 AND BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS, SHALL DEVELOP AND UPDATE AS
20 NECESSARY A LIST OF FREE OR LOW-COST BROADBAND SERVICES AND
21 OTHER INTERNET ACCESS RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND
22 OTHER STAFF. ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 10, 2021, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
23 POST THE LIST ON ITS WEBSITE IN A LOCATION EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO THE
24 PUBLIC AND SHALL DISTRIBUTE A COPY OF THE LIST TO LOCAL EDUCATION
25 PROVIDERS.

26 **22-103-106. Connecting Colorado students grant program**
27 **fund - created - legislative declaration.** (1) (a) THE CONNECTING

1 COLORADO STUDENTS GRANT PROGRAM FUND IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE
2 STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY CREDITED TO THE FUND
3 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY
4 THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE
5 FUND. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND INCOME
6 DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE FUND TO
7 THE FUND.

8 (b) THE MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO
9 THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING
10 THE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 103. THE DEPARTMENT MAY
11 ANNUALLY USE UP TO TWO PERCENT OF THE MONEY ANNUALLY AWARDED
12 AS GRANTS FROM THE FUND FOR THE EXPENSES INCURRED IN
13 ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM.

14 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS,
15 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR THE
16 PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 103. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSMIT ALL
17 MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS TO THE STATE
18 TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE FUND.

19 (3) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES THAT, FOR PURPOSES OF
20 SECTION 17 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION, THE PROGRAM
21 IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN IMPROVING STUDENT SAFETY AND MAY
22 THEREFORE RECEIVE FUNDING FROM THE STATE EDUCATION FUND
23 CREATED IN SECTION 17 (4) OF ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

24 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2020-21state fiscal year,
25 \$20,000,000 is appropriated to the connecting Colorado students grant
26 program fund created in section 22-103-106, C.R.S., for use by the
27 department of education. This appropriation is from the general fund. To

1 implement this act, the department may use this appropriation to
2 implement the connecting Colorado students grant program created in
3 article 103 of title 22, C.R.S.

4 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
5 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.