

## CHAPTER 9

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**EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS**


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**HOUSE BILL 20B-1001**

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Young and Soper, Arndt, Benavidez, Bird, Buckner, Buentello, Caraveo, Coleman, Cutter, Duran, Esgar, Exum, Froelich, Garnett, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Herod, Holtorf, Hooton, Jackson, Jaquez Lewis, Kennedy, Kipp, Kraft-Tharp, Lontine, McCluskie, McLachlan, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Rich, Roberts, Singer, Sirota, Snyder, Sullivan, Tipper, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Weissman, Woodrow, Becker, Will;  
 also SENATOR(S) Donovan and Coram, Bridges, Cooke, Crowder, Danielson, Fenberg, Fields, Foote, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Hisey, Holbert, Lee, Lundeen, Moreno, Pettersen, Priola, Rankin, Rodriguez, Scott, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Story, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Winter, Woodward, Zenzinger, Garcia.

**AN ACT**

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

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

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

**ARTICLE 103**  
**Connecting Colorado Students Grant Program**

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

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

(b) **TO LEARN ONLINE, A STUDENT MUST HAVE ACCESS TO ADEQUATE BROADBAND SERVICE THAT ALLOWS FOR ONLINE INSTRUCTION, INCLUDING VIDEO CONFERENCING, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ACCESS NEEDS OF OTHER INTERNET USERS WITHIN THE STUDENT'S HOUSEHOLD;**

(c) **STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCOME BACKGROUNDS, STUDENTS EXPERIENCING**

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*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.*

HOMELESSNESS, MIGRANT STUDENTS, STUDENTS FROM RURAL COLORADO, AND STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE ARE LESS LIKELY TO HAVE ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND SERVICE;

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

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

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

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

(h) IN ADDITION TO STUDENTS, MANY EDUCATORS AND OTHER STAFF LACK ADEQUATE BROADBAND SERVICE TO PROVIDE ONLINE INSTRUCTION;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**22-103-103. Connecting Colorado students grant program - created - application - awards.** (1) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THE CONNECTING COLORADO STUDENTS GRANT PROGRAM TO AWARD GRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO BROADBAND SERVICE FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF WHO LACK STABLE, RELIABLE INTERNET ACCESS FOR ONLINE LEARNING AND THEREBY ENABLE EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS TO TEACH AND LEARN ONLINE. A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER THAT RECEIVES A GRANT SHALL USE THE GRANT MONEY TO MEET THE INTERNET ACCESS NEEDS OF ITS STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF, WHICH MAY INCLUDE:

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

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

(II) PROVIDING DEVICES TO ACCESS THE INTERNET;

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

AND

(IV) INCREASING THE AVAILABILITY OF INTERNET ACCESS USING WIRELESS FIDELITY, OR WI-FI, ANTENNAS; MOBILE HOTSPOTS; SATELLITE CONNECTIONS; OR OTHER TECHNOLOGIES CAPABLE OF DELIVERING BROADBAND SERVICE; AND

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

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

(a) A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS CONSULTED WITH EDUCATORS AND OTHER SCHOOL-LEVEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AND WITH BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS IN PREPARING THE APPLICATION;

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

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

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

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

(f) THE TIMELINE BY WHICH THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER EXPECTS TO SPEND THE GRANT MONEY TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED PLAN TO MEET THE INTERNET ACCESS NEEDS OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF;

(g) AN ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE BROADBAND SERVICE AND, IF INCLUDED IN THE GRANT APPLICATION, DEVICES TO ACCESS THE INTERNET, INCLUDING THE QUANTITY AND COST PER UNIT, THAT THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER REQUIRES TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT INTERNET ACCESS FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF TO ENABLE EFFECTIVE ONLINE TEACHING AND LEARNING;

(h) THE NUMBER AND OVERALL PERCENTAGES OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF IN THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER'S COMMUNITY OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND STAFF WHO WILL RECEIVE IMPROVED INTERNET ACCESS AS A

## RESULT OF THE PROPOSED USE OF A GRANT;

(i) THE BANDWIDTH SPEED OF THE BROADBAND SERVICE AND OF THE INTERNET-ACCESS DEVICES, IF ANY, THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF AS A RESULT OF THE GRANT, INCLUDING THE UPLOAD AND DOWNLOAD SPEEDS AND SUPPORT FOR WHY THE IDENTIFIED SPEEDS ARE ADEQUATE FOR ONLINE LEARNING FOR EVERY SCHOOL-AGED CHILD IN A HOUSEHOLD AND FOR EDUCATORS OR OTHER STAFF TO PROVIDE ONLINE INSTRUCTION; AND

(j) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

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

(a) THE TIMELINE BY WHICH THE APPLYING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER EXPECTS TO SPEND THE GRANT MONEY AND ESPECIALLY WHETHER THE GRANT MONEY IS LIKELY TO BE SPENT AND THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER'S PROPOSED PLAN TO MEET THE INTERNET ACCESS NEEDS OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR;

(b) THE DEGREE TO WHICH AN APPLYING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS WORKED WITH BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF LOW-OR NO-COST OPTIONS FOR PROVIDING INTERNET ACCESS TO STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF BEFORE SEEKING A GRANT;

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

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

(e) THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE APPLYING LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER HAS ACCESS TO OTHER FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO USE IN PROVIDING INTERNET ACCESS

TO STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND OTHER STAFF.

(4) IN RECOMMENDING AND AWARDING GRANTS, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PRIORITIZE:

(a) LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS THAT, FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR, SERVED A STUDENT POPULATION THAT INCLUDED A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO WERE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS UNDER THE FEDERAL "RICHARD B. RUSSELL NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1751 ET SEQ.; AND

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

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

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

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

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

(c) A DESCRIPTION OF THE USE OF THE GRANTS IN PROVIDING BROADBAND SERVICE AND IMPROVED INTERNET ACCESS;

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

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

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

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

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

**22-103-106. Connecting Colorado students grant program fund - created - legislative declaration.** (1) (a) THE CONNECTING COLORADO STUDENTS GRANT PROGRAM FUND IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY CREDITED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE FUND TO THE FUND. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND ON FEBRUARY 1, 2022, TO THE GENERAL FUND.

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

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

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

**22-103-107. Repeal of article.** THIS ARTICLE 103 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2022.

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

created in article 103 of title 22, C.R.S.

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

Approved: December 7, 2020