

ADDRESSING STUDENT LEARNING LOSS AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC (SB21-013)

Sen. Rhonda Fields | Reps. Jennifer Bacon and Meg Froelich

COVID-19 has impacted all our lives in meaningful and difficult ways, and Colorado students have been at the center of these devastating effects. The intention of this bill is to identify resources and opportunities that students and parents can leverage to address learning recovery needs. Specifically, this bill:

- Directs the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to identify educational products, strategies, and services to help reverse learning loss and create a resource bank of these items by fall 2021-22
- CDE must also provide information about nonprofit providers and how districts could partner with these organizations to help students
- CDE will provide technical assistance, upon request, to schools and school districts implementing these strategies

Amendment Expected to Expand Access to Colorado Digital Learning Solutions:

- Directs the BOCES responsible for supplemental online learning (also known as Colorado Digital Learning Solutions) to prioritize working with providers and districts to focus on learning recovery programming starting in the summer of 2021 and continuing through the 2021-22 school year.
- Districts shall to the extent practicable, partner with nonprofit entities and community-based organizations to expand the availability of, and students' access to online learning recovery courses.
- Districts that participate in the programming should identify students most in need of learning recovery programming and prioritize those students to receive the programming they need.
- Requires participating school districts to ensure parents better understand this resource so that more students can benefit and requires CDLS to ensure all local districts are aware of the benefits of expanding courses to students and the manner in which students may enroll in these courses through the district