A bill to be entitled
An act relating to use of federal funding to support
online learning; requiring the Department of Education
to publish a report on its website by a specified
date; providing requirements for the report; requiring
the department, in consultation with the Office of
Broadband, to make certain recommendations; providing
an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) By November 1, 2021, the Department of
Education shall publish, on its website, a report which must
include, at a minimum:
(a) The amount of federal relief funding and other
funding, by source, used by each school district in the 2019-
2020 and 2020-2021 school years to provide:
1. Students with Internet access and devices suitable for
online learning and instructional continuity pursuant to
Department of Education emergency orders and federal relief
funding plans.
2. Learning management systems and other platform-based
supports for in-person and online learning and related
professional development.
(b) The amount of unexpended federal relief funding,
including as a percentage of total received, by source.

(c) The estimated number and percentage of students who do not have Internet access or devices suitable for online learning, by district.

(d) Details of state and local initiatives to provide students with Internet access or devices suitable for online learning.

(e) Barriers identified by school districts to providing students with Internet access or devices suitable for online learning.

(2) As part of its report, the department shall identify programming, initiatives, and strategies that were effective in providing Internet access and devices to students and supporting innovative instructional practices. The report must include recommendations, in consultation with the Office of Broadband, for appropriating remaining federal relief funding to close the digital divide for students without Internet access or devices suitable for online learning, consistent with best practices and according to geographical need.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.