## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Zenzinger Champions Local Schools & Small Businesses

Legislation to help reignite local economies and provide necessary resources for Colorado schools pass the Senate with bipartisan support

**Denver, CO** – Today, Senate Democrats passed legislation sponsored by Senator Rachel Zenzinger to support K-12 education and provide vital resources for the revitalization of Colorado's main streets. Both bills were passed with bipartisan support. SB21-053 was approved unanimously.

"It's no secret that our schools and small businesses have borne the brunt of the COVID-19 pandemic, and I'm pleased to sponsor two bills (SB21-053 and SB21-110 respectively) that will help the recovery process," **said Senator Rachel Zenzinger (D-Arvada), Senate Chair of the Education Committee.** "The school funding bill adjusts for decreases in student count and tax revenues caused by the pandemic that the schools could not afford to absorb. And SB-110 helps small businesses by committing \$30 million from the general fund for the revitalization of main streets in Colorado. I look forward to the positive impact these bills will have on our students and our economy when they ultimately receive the Governor's signature."

<u>SB21-053</u> represents Senate Democrats' commitment to protecting K-12 education funding for the current and upcoming fiscal years. Students and teachers throughout Colorado have suffered as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and this funding will ensure that they have the resources they need upon their return to the classroom.

<u>SB21-110</u> allocates \$30 million to the state highway fund to provide additional funding for the Department of Transportation's revitalizing main streets and safer main streets programs, which will help improve the safety and quality of Colorado's roads, bridges and transit infrastructure. As the state recovers from the economic recession, this bill will also provide a number of employment opportunities by revitalizing local businesses.

Having passed the Senate on Third Reading, these bills now move to the House for consideration. To track the progress of this legislation, visit the Colorado General Assembly's <u>website</u>.

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## ABOUT SEN. ZENZINGER:

An Arvada resident with a deep background in education and public school advocacy, Rachel Zenzinger was elected to the State Senate in 2016. Rachel had previously represented the district when she was appointed to serve in the State Senate for the 2014 legislative session. She currently serves as Chair of the Education Committee, as Vice Chair of the Statutory Revision Committee, and as a member of the Transportation and Energy Committee.