

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY RESPONDS TO PRESIDENT BUSH ON
NCLB**

WASHINGTON, DC— Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, released the following statement in response to President Bush's remarks on reauthorizing No Child Left Behind.

“Today President Bush called on Congress to reauthorize the No Child Left Behind Act and not to turn back the clock on educational excellence. Unfortunately, this Administration has dropped the ball on education reform by shortchanging this law to the tune of \$56 billion since its enactment. This Democratic Congress has made education a top priority. We know that schools have faced challenges in implementing the law, and in Congress we're working to provide the solutions and the resources needed to ensure that students and schools can succeed. We won't water down the commitment to ensuring that all students – black, white, rich or poor – reach high standards.”

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