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KENNEDY ON NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

WASHINGTON, DC— Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, released the following statement in response to remarks made by President Bush on reauthorizing No Child Left Behind. President Bush met with Civil Rights leaders today to talk about the bill's reauthorization.

Chairman Kennedy plans to introduce reauthorization language by the end of the month.

“It’s regrettable that the Bush Administration has made the renewal of the No Child Left Behind school reform law far more difficult by its failure to fully fund and implement it. The President is right that we must continue to hold schools accountable for results. But over the past five years of working with this law, we have learned more about what works and what does not work and we should take those lessons into account. While we press forward with school reform, practical changes to the law are needed to ensure that we do not lag in our commitment to helping every parent, teacher and child succeed.”

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