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SENATOR KENNEDY'S REMARKS ON THE EDUCATION BUDGET
(As Prepared for Delivery)

"When it comes to education, this budget aces the test. After years of Republican budgets that cater to special interests, our budget invests in our nation's most special interest – our children.

When you see young students going off to school or college each day, you're seeing America's future. This Democratic budget reverses our course and invests in that future.

Instead of leaving millions of children behind, it provides funding for 50,000 new teachers and improving the skills of 170,000 existing teachers.

Instead of cutting education programs, this budget helps a million children get the tutoring and other aid they need after school.

Instead of ignoring the plight of families facing crushing college costs, our program raises the Pell Grant by \$300 and says student loan payments can never exceed 15 percent of your income.

Parents, business leaders and military officials all know that these investments are vital to our nation.

They open the doors of opportunity to our children so they can get good jobs and raise strong families.

They help our economy by equipping our citizens to compete and win in the global economy.

And they strengthen our national security by training a new generation of leaders.

Those are the priorities of the American people and we are here today to say that Democrats are delivering on those priorities today."