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CONTACT: Laura Capps/ Melissa Wagoner
(202) 224-2633

KENNEDY ON NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRESS (NEAP) REPORT

WASHINGTON, D.C—Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy released the following statement in response to the National Assessment of Education Progress (NEAP) released by the Department of Education on mapping the standards set by each state for the No Child Left Behind Act.

"I commend the U.S. Department of Education for this important report. The No Child Left Behind Act assigns responsibility to each state for setting their own standards. But this analysis suggests that now, more than ever, we must do more to ensure that state standards are aligned to the knowledge and skills needed for success in the 21st Century. Regardless of the state in which they reside, all students should receive the full support and challenging curriculum needed to learn to their potential.

I look forward to working in No Child Left Behind to help encourage states to adopt a more consistent and rigorous definition of what students should know and be able to do, in key subjects such as reading, math, and science."

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