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**KENNEDY REACTION TO SECRETARY SPELLINGS SPEECH ON HIGHER ED  
COMMISSION**

Today, Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings spoke at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte on the formation of a higher education commission to develop a national strategy on post secondary education. Below is a statement from Senator Edward M. Kennedy:

"I applaud the Secretary's effort to look at the long-term strengths and weaknesses of our postsecondary system. More than ever, our colleges and universities are vital to our ability to meet the new and dynamic challenges of our time. We need to ensure that every student has the ability to go to college and that they graduate ready for the jobs of the 21st century."

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