

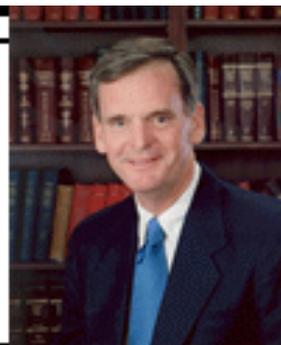
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**NEWS RELEASE**

# Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

*February 13, 2003*

*Contact: Erin Rath/Jeff Turcotte*

## **GREGG SECURES ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR EDUCATION**

*Gregg Amendment adds \$2 billion for education programs to local, state governments*

WASHINGTON— U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, successfully included over \$2 billion in additional federal dollars in the Fiscal Year 2003 Omnibus Appropriations bill for education programs. The increase in funding is a direct result of an amendment offered by Senator Gregg during Senate consideration the bill. The new funds will be used to increase programs for disadvantaged students, special education programs for students with disabilities and Pell Grants for low-income college students.

“There has been much discussion in New Hampshire about the question of the federal government’s promise to pay for its share of the special education mandates and a concern that the No Child Left Behind Act may create added pressure on state and local school budgets,” said Sen. Gregg. “This increase will go a long way to ensure that school districts and educators in New Hampshire can focus on the important work of teaching students rather than being concerned about whether or not they have the tools to get the job done.”

In addition to the benefits that students will see from the \$576 million nationwide increase for Pell Grants, New Hampshire will receive an estimated increase of \$3.8 million, or 14 percent, for Title I program activities to help schools implement the No Child Left Behind Act, and an increase of roughly \$5.4 million, or nearly 17 percent, for special education programs. These increases come on top of the increase of over \$16 million, or 21 percent, in federal funding for New Hampshire’s K-12 education programs for the 2002 Fiscal Year.

Senator Gregg stated, “The overall education budget contains historic increases for education, demonstrating that this President and this Congress are committed to providing the means for implementing education reforms and ensuring that every child has access to a quality education. By providing even more money for implementing the reforms than initially proposed for 2003, these additional dollars that we were able to have included reinforce this strong commitment and represent the ultimate in flexibility for state and local district needs. These dollars truly eliminate any misconception that No Child Left Behind is an unfunded mandate.”

**-more-**

Senator Gregg has led the effort in the Senate to increase funding for critical education programs. The bill, which is now slated to pass both Houses of Congress by the end of the week and will then head to the President for his signature into law.

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