



**News from Congressman**

# **Tom Lantos**

**12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of California  
San Mateo/San Francisco**

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**FOR INFORMATION CALL**  
Lynne Weil (202) 225-6735

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## **“No Child Left Behind” Deserves a Failing Grade For Short-Changing America’s Schools**

**Washington, DC** – On the second anniversary of the “No Child Left Behind” (NCLB) program, Representative Tom Lantos (D-CA) gave the initiative a failing grade for betraying the pledges made when the Bush Administration cultivated widespread bipartisan support for it.

“‘No Child Left Behind’ will remain nothing but a snappy slogan if the funds for it are not made available,” Lantos said. “For failing America’s schools, the program deserves an ‘F.’ Public education in this country deserves the promising future that this program once represented.”

One month after signing the bill establishing the NCLB program, President Bush submitted his 2003 budget to Congress and proposed \$7.2 billion less for the initiative than the law had authorized. The 2004 budget fell similarly short; Lantos was among a number of the program’s previous supporters who voted against the 2004 education spending bill and supported a Democrat-sponsored alternative that would have fully funded NCLB. Lantos urged President Bush to seek complete funding when he unveils his 2004 budget request next month.

An educator for three decades and a member of the Millbrae School Board for several years, Lantos has championed public education throughout his tenure in Congress. In 2003 he secured \$4 million in additional Department of Education grants for Bay Area schools to help them improve early childhood reading skills, provide much-needed materials and reduce class size.

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