



U.S. Representative • 9<sup>th</sup> CD, New York • Brooklyn-Queens

**ANTHONY D. WEINER**

Report

## **AN "F" FOR EDUCATION**

**A TWO-YEAR REVIEW OF THE NO CHILD LEFT  
BEHIND ACT**



Prepared by:

Congressman Anthony D. Weiner

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As children in New York City begin the 2003-2004 school year, it is painfully obvious that President Bush has failed New York City schools, teachers, and students. In January 2002, when President Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act into law, he promised to set higher standards for schools, teachers, and school administrators. These higher standards, in the form of new mandates, would hold schools accountable for providing a quality education to each and every student. And when this legislation became law, President Bush also promised to provide school districts with the funds necessary to ensure this new promise of a better education.

But ever since the No Child Left Behind Act was signed into law, the Republican reality has failed to live up to its rhetoric. Just months after signing NCLB into law, President Bush submitted a budget to Congress, which underfunded the law by billions. Congress essentially enacted the President's budget request in fiscal 2003, and they are poised to do this same again this year. For example, Title I, the federal government's primary program for assisting low performing schools is authorized to receive \$18.5 billion in fiscal 2004 under NCLB. Under the Bush budget, it would receive \$12.35 billion. In its FY04 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill, the Republican controlled House of Representatives approved the President's request.

What does this mean for New York? If the House passed version of the Labor-HHS appropriations bill is enacted, for a second consecutive year, New York City will receive hundreds of millions less than it was promised in federal aid. In particular:

- For fiscal years 2003 and 2004, NYC is receiving \$657 million less than promised in Title I funding to assist disadvantaged students.
- For fiscal years 2003 and 2004, NYC is receiving \$513 million less than promised in funding to assist disabled students.

- An analysis of five programs found a shortfall of more than \$1.2 billion for NYC over the past two years.

New York City schools cannot meet the new federal mandates without the funds that they were promised. Just this week, the New York City Department of Education announced that 95 additional schools have been added to the list of those in need of improvement. Without the funds necessary to meet these new mandates, New York City will never fulfill

**New York City Programs under No Child Left Behind that are  
Shortchanged by the Bush and House GOP Budgets**

**Improving Academic Achievement for Disadvantaged Children**

This program, otherwise known as Title I, Part A, provides money to high-poverty school districts based on the number of children receiving free or reduced-price lunch. This money is intended to target these low-income students so that they can receive the additional resources needed to help them perform at the same level as their peers. This money can be used for educational assistance in the form of additional instruction in areas such as Reading, Writing, English as a Second Language, and for support and guidance counselors.

NYC	NCLB NYCity	House FY04	President's			
<u>FY03 Funding</u>	<u>04Auth. Level</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>FY04 Request</u>	<u>FY04 Shortfall</u>	<u>FY03 Shortfall</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Shortfall</u>						
\$754,000,000	\$1,190,000,000	\$796,000,000	\$796,000,000	\$394,000,000	\$263,000,000	
\$657,000,000						

**Individuals with Disabilities Act (Part B)**

This program provides special education and related services to children with disabilities. Activities supported by this program include training for teachers of students with disabilities and acquisition of assistive technology devices such as textbooks in Braille or wheelchair ramps.

NYC	NCLB NY City	House FY04	President's			
<u>FY03 Funding</u>	<u>04 Auth. Level</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>FY04 Request</u>	<u>FY04 Shortfall</u>	<u>FY03 Shortfall</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Shortfall</u>						

464,900,000	\$496,000,000	\$236,000,000	\$228,000,000	\$260,000,000	\$252,900,000	\$512,900,000
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**Improving Teacher Quality**

This program provides support for a wide variety of development and recruiting efforts. Professional development is provided to all school teachers, administrators, and other school personnel based on the educational needs of the school children they serve. Professional development can be in the areas of Math and Science; if funds are sufficient the program expands to all subject areas.

NYC	NCLB NY City	House FY04	President's			
<u>FY03 Funding</u>	<u>04 Auth. Level</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>FY04 Request</u>	<u>FY04 Shortfall</u>	<u>FY03 Shortfall</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Shortfall</u>						
\$152,000,000	\$147,000,000	\$130,000,000	\$126,600,000	\$17,000,000	\$22,000,000	\$39,000,000

**Education Technology**

This program supports activities to increase student achievement through the integration of technology into the curriculum and to increase student and teacher access to technology, especially in low-income areas. Activities supported in this program include teacher training in the use of educational technology and the acquisition of hardware, software, and technology supporting access to the Internet.

NYC	NCLB NY City	House FY04	President's			
<u>FY03 Funding</u>	<u>04 Auth. Level</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>FY04 Request</u>	<u>FY04 Shortfall</u>	<u>FY03 Shortfall</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Shortfall</u>						
\$26,300,000	\$26,900,000	\$17,850,000	\$18,000,000	\$9,050,000	\$8,500,000	\$17,550,000

**State Grants for Innovative Programs**

This program provides supplementary educational materials, equipment and training that are part of innovative and creative efforts to improve our schools. Activities supported by this program include programs for educationally disadvantaged students, literacy programs for adults, acquisition of instructional and educational materials such as library materials or computer hardware or software, and for hiring and supporting school nurses and counselors.

NYC	NCLB NY City	House FY04	President's			
<u>FY03 Funding</u>	<u>04 Auth. Level</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>FY04 Request</u>	<u>FY04 Shortfall</u>	<u>FY03 Shortfall</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Shortfall</u>						
\$20,000,000	\$17,900,000	\$12,000,000	\$13,760,000	\$5,900,000	\$6,300,000	\$12,200,000

\* All figures provided above are based on funding requests in the Bush FY04 budget, the House FY04 Labor-HHS-Education bill, and the authorized program levels in the No Child Left Behind Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. New York City estimates are based on historical funding levels for the individual programs.

Congressman Anthony D. Weiner

## **Reports List**