



**STATEMENT OF NEW ORLEANS MAYOR MARC MORIAL,
PRESIDENT, U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS,
ON AGREEMENT ON EDUCATION REFORM LEGISLATION**

December 11, 2001

“The nation’s mayors applaud the agreement reached on education reform legislation. This important measure would clearly help improve the quality of our schools by promoting accountability and providing desperately needed additional funding.

“We welcome the additional funds that will benefit all schools, particularly those in large cities. And we strongly support provisions to grant local school districts more flexibility on how best to spend a portion of their federal education dollars. However, we are disappointed that the legislation does not include full funding for special education because of the significant impact of such funding on local school budgets.

“Mayors from coast to coast are committed to providing all our children the best education possible. To that end, we welcome the efforts of Congress to build on the local-federal education partnership.”

###

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today. Each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor.

Contact: Andy Solomon (202) 861-6766
 Lina Garcia (202) 861-6719