

As a Nation, we made a promise 36 years ago that disadvantaged children would be well educated in our country. We have not yet fulfilled that promise. Now we must. If we are to do so, we must change our approach. I challenge the House and Senate conferees to keep this imperative for real change in mind as they begin their deliberations. Empowering parents and educators closest to the children, insisting on real accountability for results, streamlining and placing more focus on proven programs, and increasing resources in an intelligent and reasonable manner tied to the reforms all work. Adhering to these approaches can provide us an historic opportunity for our children and our country. Let's seize it.

### **Remarks on Departure From Göteborg and an Exchange With Reporters**

*June 15, 2001*

**The President.** Good morning. Thank you all very much for coming. Laura and I have had a fantastic trip here to Sweden, and we want to thank all the folks at our Embassy for working hard to make our trip go so well. First, I want to make sure you meet your boss, and that's the Secretary of State, Colin Powell, who's doing a fantastic job for America. I want to thank Ambassador Lyndon Olson and his wife, Kay, for their hospitality and their service to the United States of America. They have served our country with distinction and class, and we're very grateful. I want to thank Bruce Carter for his hard work to make sure our trip went so well. And I want to thank Gillian Milonovic for her work, as well. [*Applause*] Gillian has got a few supporters out there.

Before we come around and shake your hand and thank you, I do want to talk about a piece of good news that we got out of our United States Senate yesterday. Yesterday the Senate overwhelmingly voted for an education bill that I had submitted to the Congress. It is a piece of legislation that will reform public education in America. It is a meaningful, real reform.

I want to thank Senator Kennedy and Senator Gregg for their bipartisan cooperation.

I urge the conferees from the House and the Senate to act quickly on this legislation so that America can say we put the reforms in place, and we can truly say that no child in our country will be left behind.

I'm sure you've read about the so-called divisiveness in Washington. In short order, we have passed meaningful tax reform, and we are now on our way to meaningful education reform. And I'm so proud of the accomplishments not only of the administration, but also of the United States Congress.

And I'm proud of your service to America, as well. You stand tall for a great country, and for that we are very grateful.

God bless you all, and God bless America.

### **Education Reform Legislation**

**Q.** Mr. President, are you sorry you didn't get vouchers?

**The President.** I'm very pleased. It's a great piece of legislation.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:48 a.m. at Landvetter Airport. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **The President's News Conference With President Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland in Warsaw, Poland**

*June 15, 2001*

**President Kwasniewski.** Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. First of all, once again, I'd like to extend my words of welcome to all those attending the press conference. And I wish to express my joy upon the occasion of the official visit of the President of the United States of America, George Walker Bush, Jr., in Poland.

We are very honored that the first visit of the newly elected President of the United States of America is taking place in Poland. We take it as a symbol but, at the same time, as the confirmation of friendly and allied relations that Poland and the United States have enjoyed for more than a 100 years and which have developed in the last decade very strongly, and that is a good reason for respect. I, once again, want to welcome Mr. President Bush here in Poland.