



**Statement of Education Industry Association Executive Director Steven Pines
on the Enactment of Florida Legislation Which Will Strengthen
Implementation of Federally Funded Tutoring Under “No Child Left Behind”**

WASHINGTON, DC, June 27, 2006 -- With Florida Governor Jeb Bush’s signing into law yesterday of Florida Senate Bill 772, “An Act Relating to Schools”, many more students who qualify for federally funded tutoring under “No Child Left Behind,” will now receive supplemental education services (SES), and will be able to access these services in the safety and convenience of their local public schools. The Education Industry Association (EIA) worked closely with Florida legislators and education officials to develop key provisions of the new law.

EIA, which represents many of the tutoring providers who are delivering services to thousands of Florida public school students, is pleased that Florida’s visionary new law – which should be considered a model for other states to follow -- accomplishes several important goals:

- It requires Florida school districts to create a streamlined parent notification, enrollment and provider selection process, and ensures tutoring programs begin no later than October 15 of each school year.
- It ensures that school districts will open their school facilities to after-school tutoring, making it safer and more convenient for eligible students.
- It mandates that school districts must receive evidence of acceptance or rejection of SES from a majority of eligible SES families before districts are deemed to be compliant with the law.
- It makes it more difficult for school districts to use unspent, federally provided SES funds for purposes other than SES.

EIA salutes Florida’s legislators and State education leaders who made this important law a reality: Representative Frank Attkisson, who sponsored the original legislation in the Florida House; Representatives Trey Traviesa and Ralph Arza, who provided important leadership on the issue; Senator Steve Wise, who sponsored the Senate bill which ultimately made its way to Governor Jeb Bush’s desk; and Florida Education Chancellor Cheri Yecke, who all along has seen the potential of SES, as well as its implementation challenges.

EIA urges other state legislatures will follow Florida’s leadership, and pass similar legislation that will hold school districts more accountable for providing much-needed, and –wanted, federally funded tutoring services under “No Child Left Behind.”

About the Education Industry Association

The Education Industry Association works to expand educational opportunities and improve student achievement for learners of all ages by infusing American education with market-based drivers of service, innovation, and results. Founded in 1990, EIA is the leading professional association for private providers of education services, suppliers, and other private organizations in all sectors of education. EIA currently has more than 600 individual and corporate members. <http://www.educationindustry.org/>

EIA provides the framework for entrepreneurs and corporate executives to work together to promote public understanding of the education industry and develop public-private partnerships to advance better teaching and learning. The association has formed a Coalition of its members who provide supplemental education services (SES) under “No Child Left Behind” (NCLB) to inform policymakers about the impact of SES services on student achievement; to remove barriers to implementation through positive and proactive engagement with government officials, and promote full and equitable access to SES services by parents and their children to which they are entitled.

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