
Frank R. Lautenberg

UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR NEW JERSEY



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LAUTENBERG STATEMENT ON TASK FORCE REPORT ON CONDITIONS AT NORTHVALE SCHOOL

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ) issued the following statement today after the Joint Task Force of the Deidre Imus Environmental Center for Pediatric Oncology and the Hackensack University Medical Center released its report on conditions at St. Anthony's School in Northvale, NJ:

“Over the past decade, we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of children diagnosed with autism. In fact, one out of every 94 children in New Jersey has autism -- the highest rate in the country.

This report raises important questions. I want to commend the work of the Joint Task Force and their continued commitment to helping this community. I will continue to monitor the situation at St. Anthony's closely and await the outcome of further testing at the school.”

Sen. Lautenberg, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, is working to provide \$53 million for screening and treatment of autism, a 50 percent increase over the President's proposal. He has also cosponsored a bill that would authorize \$350 million to improve access to autism services for individuals and their families.

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