NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Saturday, May 3, 2003

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GREGG COMMENTS ON OLD MAN IN THE MOUNTAIN

WASHINGTON— U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today made the following statement in reaction to the falling of the Old Man in the Mountain:

"The Old Man gave us identity and definition as a state. New Hampshire has lost a long time symbol and friend.

"It's given the state and really the people of the state both identity and definition," he said. "It's a symbol of commitment to the environment, to the natural wonders of our state, and it's also a symbol of our heritage," he said, noting legend holds that the Old Man was the face of Pernigewasset, the Indian Chief who waited in vain on the mountain-top for his wife to return from a journey.

Gregg said every New Hampshire child grows up knowing the Old Man of the Mountain. "It's basically a long time friend of the family. You go up and take field trips up there, you climb up to the top and look down from the top. Whenever you have guests in the state, you always take them up to the Notch to show them the Old Man.

"It's interwoven with the fabric of the culture and character of the state so deeply that it's very hard at this early stage to assess what its loss will really mean."