



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

May 23, 2008

Dr. Chris Myers Asch
U.S. Public Service Academy
1225 I Street NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Dr. Asch,

As the Mayor of Philadelphia I am writing to offer my endorsement of the United States Public Service Academy. I believe that the Academy will be good for America and will help inspire young people to make this country a better place to live.

The Public Service Academy will make an important contribution to our nation by strengthening our civilian leadership. Like its military counterparts, the Academy will offer a rigorous undergraduate education that will develop students into highly-qualified, service-oriented young leaders. The visibility and prestige of a Public Service Academy will help attract more top students into public service, which will help America meet the serious domestic and international challenges of the twenty-first century.

The Public Service Academy also will give service-minded students the opportunity to serve our country without enduring financial hardship. Many young people enter college wanting to serve our country, but they cannot afford to pursue public service after graduation because they have accumulated too much debt. Our public institutions lose out on many top college graduates who avoid public service in favor of more lucrative private sector fields. Our nation cannot afford to continue losing such potential leaders.

I strongly believe that the United States Public Service Academy will strengthen America, and I urge Congress to pass the U.S. Public Service Academy Act (S. 960 and H.R. 1671) to create it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Nutter".

Michael A. Nutter
Mayor