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MEDIA ADVISORY

Nine Young Political Leaders From Across the U.S. to Depart On Exchange to the Philippines Study Program to Focus on Citizen Diplomacy

WASHINGTON - A delegation of nine young political leaders from across the United States will depart on Friday, August 3, 2007, for a two week political exchange program in the Philippines organized by the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL). Their departure is preceded by a day of meetings and briefings in Washington, D.C. with officials from the Embassy of the Philippines and the U.S. Department of State.

This delegation is the seventh ACYPL has sent to the Philippines. ACYPL sent its first delegation to the Philippines in 1989 in conjunction with a visit to Indonesia. Since 1995, ACYPL has organized its exchanges with the Philippines through the National Movement of Young Legislators, a 5,000-member-strong league of young Filipino elected lawmakers (vice-governors, vice mayors, provincial board members, city & municipal councilors) thirty five years of age or younger.

Who: Young political leaders from across the American political spectrum, including:

- **The Honorable Brad Cole** (R) (Escort) - Mayor, City of Carbondale, Illinois
- **The Honorable Bill Huizenga** (R) - Member, Michigan State House of Representatives
- **Ms. Jill Krowinski** (D) - Executive Director, Vermont Democratic Party
- **The Honorable John Lesch** (D) - Member, Minnesota House of Representatives
- **The Honorable Gerron Levi** (D) - Member, Maryland House of Delegates
- **The Honorable Nicole Parra** (D) - Member, California State Assembly
- **The Honorable Roger James Roth** (R) - Member, Wisconsin State House of Representatives
- **Ms. Marcia Rubensohn** (R) - Associate General Counsel, Georgia Municipal Association
- **The Honorable Ted Martin Vick** (D) - Member, South Carolina House of Representatives

What: Highlights will include meetings with political leaders from across the Filipino political spectrum, such as:

- the Speaker and members of the Filipino House of Representatives; the Majority Leader and members of the Filipino Senate; Tarlac Provincial Governor Vic Yap; Eduardo Ermita, Executive Secretary to the President of the Philippines; Mandaluyong City Mayor Benhur Abalos; Concepcion Vice Mayor Andy Lacson and members of the Manila City Council and the Tarlac Provincial Board.

When: August 2, 2007 (Washington, D.C.)
August 3, 2007 (Travel day)
August 4-17, 2007 (Philippines)

Why: The purpose of this program is to:

- Expose the delegates to the Filipino political system and culture.
- Cultivate lasting political, economic and cultural relationships between the delegates and their Filipino peers.
- Allow the delegates to engage in dialogue on international issues.

About The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL)

Recognized by the U.S. Congress as a pre-eminent catalyst for introducing rising political leaders and policy makers to international affairs and to each other, the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) is a bi-partisan, not-

for-profit international exchange organization based in Washington, DC. Since its founding in 1966, ACYPL has conducted programs and exchanges with more than 90 nations, producing a global network of several thousand alumni. Former ACYPL participants include 38 sitting members of the U.S. Congress, 6 sitting U.S. governors and ambassadors, cabinet ministers and parliamentarians from around the globe. For more information on ACYPL, please visit <http://www.acypl.org>.

PLEASE NOTE – TO SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW WITH DELEGATES OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACYPL OR THIS DELEGATION, MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA SHOULD CONTACT MIKE GARRETSON AT 202-857-0999 or mgarretson@acypl.org.

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