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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **CONGRESS JOINS NATIONWIDE SALUTE TO CHARTER SCHOOLS CONGRESSIONAL CO-CHAIRS ANNOUNCED**

(Washington, DC 4/25/00) Joining the nationwide celebration of charter schools on the occasion of National Charter Schools Week, the following congressional leaders were announced as honorary co-chairs: Judd Gregg, Joseph Lieberman, Peter Hoekstra, and Tim Roemer. "We are thrilled to have such dedicated reformers on board to help bring attention and focus to charter schools and the real reforms they are bringing to the American education scene," said Center for Education Reform president Jeanne Allen.

The purpose of the Congressional Salute to Charter Schools, organized by CER, is to help bolster the visibility of charter schools and the activities that are taking place around the country under the leadership of state charter school resource centers in nearly every state. Education Secretary Richard W. Riley is hosting satellite town meeting.

Congressional Salute events for the week of May 1-5 include proclamations and special visits to local charter schools highlighting the diverse programs available to more than 430,000 children nationwide.

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**Press Note:** Members of Press interested in accompanying the Congressional leaders on the Charter School Tour are asked to call The Center for Education Reform at (202) 822-9000.