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**Congresswoman Doris Matsui Meets with Performing Artist Usher to Discuss National Service Issues;
Importance of Empowering Urban Youth**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today Congresswoman Doris Matsui met with multi-platinum performing artist Usher Raymond IV to discuss national service issues and the importance of empowering America's urban youth ahead of the House Education and Labor Committee's Improving Service and Volunteerism Hearing, at which Usher testified.

As a Co-Chair of the National Service Congressional Caucus, Rep. Mastui has been a leader on national service issues, including advocating for volunteer corps to assist our country with education, environmental and public health projects, as well as provide relief in national emergencies.

Usher is the founder of New Look, a non-profit charity organization which aims to provide young people with a new look on life through education and real-world experience. The organization builds upon participant's interest in athletics, music and entertainment to support the growth and success of young people from disadvantage circumstances.

Congresswoman Matsui and Usher spoke about the importance of advocating for volunteer programs, and the renewed sense of service and volunteerism that celebrities, Members of Congress, and President Obama each have a responsibility to promote and encourage.

"I appreciate Usher coming to testify before Congress and the important service that New Look is providing for urban youth across the country. Empowered youth are more likely to be active in their communities, and today's hearing is an important step in bringing together

government and non-profit organizations to provide incentives and opportunities for Americans to make real investments in their community through service and volunteer projects” said Congresswoman Matsui.

Please see photos from today’s meeting attached.

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