

HOOVER INSTITUTION

ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE



Stanford, California 94305-6010

August 23, 1991

Mr. Marshall Fritz
Academy of Self-Governors
940 East Bremer Avenue
Fresno, California 93728

Dear Marshall Fritz:

I am delighted to provide you with an endorsement of your Academy of Self-Governors as follows:

"Schooling in the United States is predominantly a socialist enterprise. That is why it is both high cost and low quality. The only fundamental solution is privatization, so that parents can have real choice and competition and the profit motive can work the miracle they have worked in so many other areas. The Academy of Self-Governors is an imaginative and innovative experiment in that direction and certainly has my enthusiastic support."

Re investment, I would be strongly tempted except for an obstacle arising out of a principle that I have followed throughout my life and that has stood me in good stead of avoiding any possible charge of self-interest in promoting governmental policies. This was impressed on me greatly when I was essentially inhibited from promoting the abolition of rent control because at the time I had an apartment in a house I owned which I was renting out under rent control and therefore had a self-interest in eliminating rent control. For this reason I have never agreed to be a member of a board of directors of any private enterprise (with one very minor exception). Similarly, I am a strong and vocal proponent of the privatization of schooling. As a result, I want to avoid having any even indirect financial interest in the promotion of private schooling.

Sincerely yours,

Milton Friedman
Senior Research Fellow