



**Contact:**

Ioannis Kazanis, *Public Information Officer*  
(916) 669-3244

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 21, 2006 – No. 35

**AB 1381 ruled unconstitutional by Los Angeles superior court**

**WEST SACRAMENTO** – A Los Angeles County Superior Court judge has ruled that Assembly Bill 1381, which transfers governance and operational authority of the Los Angeles Unified School District school board to the district superintendent and a council of mayors controlled by the mayor of Los Angeles, is in direct violation of California's Constitution.

Judge Dzintra Janavs also rejected Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's proposed partnership to operate a demonstration project composed of three low-performing high schools and their feeder schools.

"Today's ruling is a victory for public education in California and reaffirms the unconstitutionality of AB 1381," said Scott P. Plotkin, executive director of the California School Boards Association. "We already have a school governance structure in place, and our focus needs to be on academic achievement. With the distraction of AB 1381 firmly behind us, we can get back to ensuring our children receive the best education possible."

"This ruling confirms what the Legislature's own lawyer told the Legislature before it passed AB 1381 and it was signed by the Governor," said Dick Hamilton, director of CSBA's Education Legal Alliance. "CSBA and the Alliance have always believed these provisions of AB 1381 would be found unconstitutional by the courts and we are thankful that day has come."

Should the mayor seek to overturn this ruling, it is likely that an immediate review by an appellate court will be sought. To view today's court ruling, [click here](#).

###