

This Free E-Book is brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

Schwarzenegger Gives Villaraigosa More Power

By Carl Hampton

Most people would now agree that the Los Angeles Unified School District is in need of some overdue changes. While classes continue to be overpopulated and text books remain in short supply, there is a real need for change. With lights and ceiling tiles falling off regularly our students just aren't able to learn, there is a real need for change.

At long last change is about to happen, but will it really make a difference to our children. A bill was signed on Monday, September 18 by governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (Republican) granting mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (Democrat) limited control over the Los Angeles Unified School District.

When this bill goes into effect in January 2007, Villaraigosa, as well as other mayors, could, if they get it right, change how 730,000 students are taught in the city of Los Angeles. The signing occurred at a ceremony at the Central Library in Downtown Los Angeles. The bill provides Villaraigosa with direct control over three schools, which have yet to be decided upon, and their feeder schools.

Villaraigosa has requested to work with specific schools, Crenshaw and Dorsey in Los Angeles; Sylmar and Monroe in the San Fernando Valley; Belmont which is west of downtown; and Roosevelt in Boyle Heights.

Although the mayor has direct control, he will not have complete control of the schools. This authority he will have to share with the school board (which will lose most of its powers under the new bill), the superintendent and a new council of mayors. There are more power shifts to be taken into account such as, the superintendent will have new budget responsibilities with the school board having limited power to review the budget. The board will now have no direct management over their staff.

The mayor has faced a lot of ill feelings by the district who opposed the bill and were absent at the bill signing. The bill is a watered down version of the New York bill passed by their current Mayor. Villaraigosa accepted the changes as a stepping stone to gaining full power some time down the road. The board voted 6 to 1 to take legal action and sue to try and block the bill. At this time, Villaraigosa only has one ally on the board, Monica Garcia.

Schwarzenegger Gives Villaraigosa More Power

Villaraigosa is a Democrat who has endorsed Phil Angelides in the November election against Schwarzenegger who is a Republican. This should make for a very interesting time as they all appear to be supporting each other. How will the politics work out? How do the children benefit? Will the children benefit or has this bill just put them into a political mine field?

<http://www.CarlHampton.com>

<http://www.fcdtcm.com>

Los Angeles Schools Strongly Opposed To Takeover By Mayor Villaraigosa

By Patricia Hawke

There is currently legislation AB 1381 in the state legislature that, if passed, will give the okay to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to take over a subset of the Los Angeles schools. Recently, the mayor's school reform team announced its latest round of changes to the bill in order to sidestep some possible problems to it passing.

Last month, according to the Los Angeles Times' August 8, 2006 article, Los Angeles Chief Legislative Analyst Gerry F. Miller made certain speculations about the bill. He believes, if the bill is passed, the following may occur:

- Some power could shift from the City Council to Villaraigosa;
- Additional costs may be incurred by the cities that are served by the Los Angeles schools; and · These same cities, as well as the Council of Mayors, could incur certain legal liabilities.

Legal responsibilities and costs could shift with the power, since the bill gives responsibility for the subset of Los Angeles schools directly to Villaraigosa, who dominates the Council of Mayors with an 80 percent vote. The Council of Mayors consists of Villaraigosa, representatives from the County Board of Supervisors, and representatives of 27 other cities that are served by the Los Angeles schools.

The recently announced changes to the bill are to placate the officials and representatives of the 27 other cities concerning Miller's speculations, as well as protect the legislation from being defeated due to criticisms from opponents who are aligned with the Los Angeles schools officials, who are strongly opposed to the takeover.

The new language added to the bill does the following:

- Budget administration for the Los Angeles schools will remain with the City Councils of the cities served by the school district, as it currently stands. This eliminates the possibility of additional costs being incurred by any of the cities served.
- Responsibility for any lawsuits or legal issues will remain with the Los Angeles schools, even though Villaraigosa will be making most of the decisions. This ensures that the County of Los Angeles and the

Schwarzenegger Gives Villaraigosa More Power

cities involved will be held blameless.

· The takeover of the Los Angeles schools subset is now likened to a school district authorizing a charter school. It is hoped by Villaraigosa's team that this language will sidestep the state constitution provision that requires public schools to be overseen by established school systems.

Kevin Reed, general counsel for the Los Angeles schools, was quite critical of the bill's new language, especially concerning legal responsibility. He also said the comparison of Villaraigosa's takeover to a charter school, which was developed by Villaraigosa's legal advisor Thomas Saenz, was erroneous. Charter schools submit to more oversight than will Villaraigosa, if the bill becomes law.

Reed also pointed out a conflict of interest for Saenz, who is also an appointed board member of the

County Office of Education. A spokesperson for the mayor said Saenz would resign, if the bill becomes law.

Villaraigosa has some backers for his bill, which will soon be reviewed by the legislature. The bill, however, has many questionable provisions in its language and many strongly opposed to it. Opposition comes not only from the Los Angeles schools officials, but also from many of the city representatives on the Council of Mayors, who already see Villaraigosa controlling too much of their concerns.

Patricia Hawke is a staff writer for Schools K–12, providing free, in–depth reports on all U.S. public and private K–12 schools. Patricia has a nose for research and writes stimulating news and views on school issues. For more information on Los Angeles schools visit

<http://www.schoolsk-12.com/California/Los-Angeles/index.html>



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

[100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment](#)
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!