



Los Angeles Area  
Chamber of Commerce

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 30, 2006

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## **L.A. AREA CHAMBER PRESIDENT & CEO GARY TOEBBEN STATEMENT ON PASSAGE OF LAUSD REFORM BILL**

"The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce congratulates Mayor Villaraigosa and the L.A. community on the passage of AB1381--a significant milestone in turning around our public schools.

Today is the right time to take a pause, a collective step back, and reflect on what it's going to take from each of us to do what's best for our kids.

We must look ahead at our next big opportunity for collaboration: working together as a team to hire the best school superintendent in the nation. The most important decision any governing body can make is selecting an outstanding leader, and we must put aside our differences and make this a team effort among the school board, Mayor, and the community.

During this interim period before the legislation takes effect, as our current superintendent Roy Romer departs, this will be a true test of our commitment to improving our schools. This commitment to excellence must transcend legislation. We must keep a laser-beam focus on the goal we all share: a high-performing public school system that prepares our kids for today's workforce.

The L.A. Area Chamber looks forward to working with all parties involved to take the next step toward making our schools great."

A copy of Gary Toebben's Aug. 29 *Business Perspective* column on the next steps in LAUSD reform is attached.

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*The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information, visit [www.lachamber.org](http://www.lachamber.org).*