



California Federation of Teachers
American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

NEWS MEDIA ADVISORY FOR
Friday, March 16 – Sunday, March 18, 2007

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**Educators to Address Education Funding, Health Care:
Hear from Oaxaca Teachers' Protest Leader,
LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa**

On Friday, March 16, hundreds of educators, members of the California Federation of Teachers (CFT), will convene at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in Los Angeles to address adequate education funding, health care legislation, and other key issues.

The educators will hear from Raquel Cruz Manzano, a leader of the Oaxaca teachers union, who will discuss the recent statewide teacher-led popular uprising. They'll also hear Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa on his plans for LA schools.

"Educators face key challenges this year, including helping enact progressive health care reform," said CFT President Mary Bergan. "Public education needs appropriate support, security and reforms for teachers to succeed. We need to prepare and retain 100,000 teachers to replace those retiring. We need smaller classes in smaller schools, targeted resources for struggling students, high quality professional development, and universal preschool programs. No Child Left Behind needs fixing, and to provide the resources it promised."

WHAT: Educators' Convention

WHEN: Friday, March 16, 2007

**WHO: LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa on LA Schools – 11:30 am.
CFT President Mary Bergan - Media Availability: Noon
Raquel Cruz Manzano (Sat. 3/17 at 5 p.m.)**

**WHERE: Wilshire Grand Hotel
930 Wilshire Boulevard,
Los Angeles**

To view the complete Convention schedule, visit the CFT website:
http://www.cft.org/home_news/cftconv07.html

As the statewide affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers, the CFT represents teachers and school employees in California from early childhood education through the university level.