



**AB 2006 - Agricultural worker clean transportation investment act**

**SUMMARY**

Currently, the Air Resources Board (ARB) administers a pilot project that provides funding to vanpool programs for agricultural workers. This program provides needed transportation to workers that have to commute to remote areas of the state, while also reducing vehicle emissions and congestion on roadways. This bill will expand the reach of the program operated by the ARB and provide additional guidance from the legislature.

**BACKGROUND**

Many of California’s agricultural workers live in extreme poverty and disadvantaged communities, where they are forced to bear a disproportionate share of California’s economic, health, and environmental burdens. Due to this economic hardship, they often lack safe, reliable, and clean transportation options. This creates challenges for them to get to work, as California’s agricultural sites are in remote areas that are hard to access without a vehicle.

Pursuant to SB 1275 (de León, Statutes of 2014), the ARB created several clean vehicle access pilot projects for disadvantaged communities, including a vanpool pilot project for agricultural workers living in the San Joaquin Valley.

Many low-income and disadvantaged communities exist throughout the rest of the state that are not eligible for this funding. These areas also have struggling workers that could benefit greatly from expanded vanpool services from this program.

**THIS BILL**

AB 2006 would codify this pilot project into statute as a statewide grant program that captures all low-income and disadvantaged communities. This will ensure that the program services all agricultural communities that need clean, reliable, transportation services.

Furthermore, given the continued investment of millions of dollars of cap-and-trade auction revenues into this project, putting it into statute will provide stronger legislative oversight of the program and ensure its longevity.

**SUPPORT**

California Vanpool Authority (Sponsor)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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