



February 16, 2023

The Honorable Carlos Villapudua
California State Assembly
1021 O St. Room 6340
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: AB 376 (Villapudua) - Support

Dear Assemblymember Villapudua,

The undersigned organizations are proud to **support Assembly Bill 376.**

Our coalition applauds Assemblymember Villapudua for his proactive response to address the driver shortage that has plagued the State's supply chain for decades.

AB 376 seeks to address the truck driver shortage impacting the movement of goods within California and throughout the country by extending financial aid in the form of Cal Grant C to eligible low- and middle-income students enrolled in an entry-level driver training program.

AB 376 extends Cal Grant C eligibility to include and prioritize students pursuing an entry-level driver training program of less than four months at a qualifying post-secondary institution. This bill also assigns the Student Aid Commission with designating qualified institutions to those approved by the Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education and driver training programs with a minimum graduation rate of 30 percent. This bill has a sunset date of January 1, 2028.

For these reasons, the undersigned organizations thank Assemblymember Villapudua for his leadership on this issue and stand in **strong support of AB 376.**

Sincerely,

Chris Shimoda, Sr. Vice President of Government Affairs
California Trucking Association (SPONSOR)

Tricia Geringer, Vice President of Government Affairs
Agricultural Council of California

Peter Friedmann, Executive Director
Agriculture Transportation Coalition

AB 376 Coalition Members (continued)

Victoria G. Horton, President & CEO
California Beer & Beverage Distributors

Matthew Hargrove, Executive Director
California Business Properties Association

Rob Lapsley, President
California Business Roundtable

Katie Little, Policy Advocate
California Farm Bureau

Lawrence Gayden, Policy Director
California Manufacturers & Technology Association

Rachel Michelin, President
California Retailers Association

Steven Lunn, President
Foreign Trade Association

Ken O'Brien, President
Gemini Shippers Association

Matt Schrap, Chief Executive Officer
Harbor Trucking Association

Sarah Wilfong, Director of Policy and Advocacy
Los Angeles County Business Federation

Savonne Caughey, Sr Director of Advocacy and Govt Relations
Pet Food Institute

Lee Brown, Executive Director
Western States Trucking Association

Cc: Jessica Rocha, Legislative Assistant, Office of Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua

