

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 626**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Liu**

February 19, 2003

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An act to add Section 10326.1 to the Public Contract Code, relating to state motor vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 626, as introduced, Liu. State vehicles: 15-passenger vans.

Existing law authorizes the Department of General Services or a state agency, as authorized by the Department of General Service, to contract with suppliers to acquire goods and services for state agencies.

This bill makes legislative findings that 15-passenger vans are unsafe and declare the intent of the Legislature that all state agencies should be prohibited from acquiring 15-passenger vans.

This bill would prohibit a state agency from acquiring a 15-passenger van and would further require that those agencies that already own a 15-passenger van limit the operation of those vehicles to persons holding a driver's license or certificate of the appropriate class.

The California Constitution authorizes the Regents of the University of California to enter into public contracts.

This bill recommends that the Regents of the University of California adopt rules and regulations that would prohibit the acquisition of 15-passenger vans and to provide that 15 passenger vans already owned by the Regents of the University may only be operated by a person holding a commercial driver's license.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the  
2 National Transportation Safety Board has recently issued findings  
3 that 15-passenger vans, because of their design, have an  
4 inordinately high incidence of accidents.

5 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that all state agencies and  
6 departments, including California Community Colleges and the  
7 California State University, should be prohibited from purchasing  
8 or leasing 15-passenger vans and that state entities that currently  
9 own 15-passenger vans require that those vehicles may only be  
10 driven by a person holding a commercial driver’s license.

11 SEC. 2. Section 10326.1 is added to the Public Contract Code,  
12 to read:

13 10326.1. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no  
14 state agency or instrumentality of the state, including the  
15 California Community Colleges and the California State  
16 University, may purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire a  
17 15-passenger van.

18 (b) Any state agency or instrumentality of the state, including  
19 the California Community Colleges and the California State  
20 University, that owns, leases, or otherwise has possession or  
21 control of a 15-passenger van, may not authorize the operation of  
22 that van unless the person driving or otherwise operating that van  
23 has a valid driver’s license or certificate of the appropriate class,  
24 as provided in Division 6 (commencing with Section 12500) of the  
25 Vehicle Code issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

26 (c) The Legislature recommends that the Regents of the  
27 University of California adopt rules and regulations similar to the  
28 provisions contained in this section.

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