



April 12, 2021

The Honorable Ash Kalra  
Chair, Committee on Labor and Employment  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 616 (Stone) The Agricultural Labor Relations Voting Choice Act - SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Kalra,

The Writers Guild of America West (WGAW), on behalf of 10,000 members who write television shows, movies, news programs, documentaries and online programming, supports AB 616, "The Agricultural Labor Relations Voting Choice Act," which modernizes union representation elections for farm workers.

Farm worker representation elections are still conducted the way political elections were in 1975, when the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act became law. Since then, California's election process has changed in ways to facilitate the right to vote. Registering to vote is easier while the time everyone has to vote has increased. Voters can allow someone else to return their ballot, while the California Voting Choice Act created options for how people can cast their ballot.

"The Agricultural Labor Relations Voting Choice Act" will afford farm workers similar opportunities in union representation elections by helping to facilitate farm workers' longstanding right to vote, free from any form of vote suppression. While ballots will remain secret, farm workers will have a choice in voting at a "polling place" as they do now, or they can receive assistance in filling out and returning their "representation ballot card" as long as the person who assists them co-signs the representation ballot card and returns it to the ALRB in a sealed and signed envelope.

Farm workers deserve better opportunities to participate in union representation elections and to fight for better wages and working conditions. For these reasons the WGAW supports AB 616, the "The Agricultural Labor Relations Voting Choice Act."

Sincerely,

David A. Goodman  
President

Marjorie David  
Vice President

Michele Mulroney  
Secretary-Treasurer