**Request:** $250,000 to survey parents, school district transportation programs, and transit program to ascertain why the majority of students living less than one mile from school either walk or ride a passenger vehicle.

**Description:** According to a School Bus Fleet report, California only transported 11% of its students in the 2015-2016 school year. That is just 666,314 of the 6.2 million students enrolled. However, the National Highway transportation Administration states that students are 70 times more likely to arrive at school safely when travelling on a school bus, instead of by car. *When it comes to the children of California, safety should be the number one concern.*

In a 2009 Safe Routes to School national survey, 35% of students living within one mile walked to school while 43% arrived to school by parent vehicle and only 20% arrived by school bus and another 2% arrived by public transit buses. The average distance for students to be offered School Bus Transportation is **beyond one mile from their school.**

**Necessity:** Clearly there is much room to improve these numbers. Additional funding for school bus transportation **will** help ensure that the future of America and their parents can worry less about school if they know they can make it there safely.

Studies indicate that of the average annual student injuries and fatalities during normal school travel hours, 85% were by passenger vehicles, 5% by bicycle and 6% by walking. **Fewer than 5% of injuries and fatalities were by school (and other) buses.**

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