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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

May 5, 2021

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair
Committee on Budget
California State , P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: AB 1200 (Ting) Plant-based food packaging: cookware: hazardous chemicals - Support

Dear Chair Ting:

Orange County Water District (OCWD; the District) writes in support of your bill AB 1200 as it is a perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) source-control bill. By January 1, 2023, AB 1200 prohibits the distribution in the state of any food packaging that contains intentionally added PFAS. The bill would require a manufacturer to use the least toxic alternative when replacing PFAS chemicals. In addition, by 2024 cookware sold in the state must be labeled, as specified in AB 1200. AB 1200 reduces the use of PFAS that could lead to a reduction of these “forever-chemicals” in the environment that could ultimately end up in water systems.

OCWD is in support of PFAS source control. In December 2019, OCWD launched the nation’s largest pilot testing program to test treatment techniques in a proactive effort to remove PFAS detected in local groundwater supplies. The District also led a planning study to help water agencies determine how new treatment facilities could be most rapidly and economically implemented. Despite playing no role in releasing PFAS into the environment, public water systems must find ways to remove it from drinking water supplies.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me or OCWD Legislative Liaison Alicia Dunkin at adunkin@ocwd.com or (714) 378-8232 if you have any questions and/or if we may be of any assistance on water policy issues in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Sheldon
Board President

Jordan Brandman
Chair, Communications/Legislative Liaison Committee

The Honorable Phil Ting
May 5, 2021
Page 2 of 2

cc:

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Senator Bob Archuleta, 32nd District
Senator Tom Umberg, 34th District
Senator Patricia Bates, 36th District
Senator Dave Min, 37th District
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Assemblymember Sharon Quirk- Silva, 65th District
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Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris, 74th District