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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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August 8, 2019

The Honorable Harley Rouda
United States House of Representatives
2300 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: PFAS User Fee Act of 2019 (H.R. 2570) - Support

Dear Congressman Rouda:

The Orange County Water District (OCWD; the District) writes to express its support of your legislation H.R. 2570, which would establish the PFAS Treatment Trust Fund (the Fund) in the Treasury of the United States. The District agrees with the finding that the costs associated with removing perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are currently borne by community water systems and treatment works, and in turn by ratepayers. With the Fund in place, water systems would be better equipped to bear the significant ongoing operation and maintenance costs of removing PFAS.

The District has been extensively monitoring two PFAS compounds, perfluorooctanoic acid/perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOA/PFOS), with our 19 municipal and special water districts. These groundwater producers provide water for 2.5 million residents in north and central Orange County. OCWD's Philip L. Anthony Water Quality Laboratory is the first public agency laboratory in California to achieve state certification to analyze for PFAS compounds in drinking water. This official testing has revealed the presence of low concentrations of PFOA and PFOS within the Orange County Groundwater Basin.

For the above reasons, OCWD is writing in support of H.R. 2570. Please contact OCWD Legislative Affairs Liaison Alicia Dunkin at (714) 477-3750 or adunkin@ocwd.com, or me, if you have any questions and/or if we may be of any assistance to you or your staff.

Sincerely,


Vicente Sarmiento, Esq.
President

The Honorable Harley Rouda
August 8, 2019
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cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Kamala Harris
Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (CA-38)
Congressman Gil Cisneros (CA-39)
Congresswoman Katie Porter (CA-45)
Congressman Jose Luis Correa (CA-46)
Congressman Alan Lowenthal (CA-47)
Congressman Mike Levin (CA-49)