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**Orange County Sanitation District**

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March 12, 2018

Senator Wieckowski  
California State Senate  
State Capitol Building, Room 4085  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Oppose SB 831 (Wieckowski) – Land use; accessory dwelling units

Dear Senator Wieckowski,

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District, I am writing in opposition of Senate Bill (SB) 831, which seeks to implement undue restrictions on OCSD's ability to safely and effectively manage our sanitation system.

SB 831 would eliminate all fees charged by a local agency, school district, special district, or water corporation for an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU). These one-time fees are paid by developers or landlords to local agencies to account for the cost of installing sewer connections and the impact on the capacity of the sewer systems that will be used by the new residents.

Under the legislation, local agencies would still be required to provide services to new ADU developments but would be prohibited from collecting reimbursement. This proposed statutory prohibition would conflict with the proportionality requirements of Proposition 218 in the State Constitution. Proposition 218 prohibits local agencies from imposing assessments that exceed the reasonable cost of service to a specific parcel. This means that local agencies are Constitutionally precluded from passing along the impact costs of an ADU to the whole system by simply raising rates on other users. How local agencies will pay for services provided to ADUs under SB 831 is unclear.

While the Orange County Sanitation District acknowledges the State is facing a housing crisis, critical utilities should not be jeopardized in the process of solving this problem. It is for the above-mentioned reasons that the Orange County Sanitation District must oppose SB 831.

Sincerely,



Gregory C. Sebourn, PLS  
Board Chairman  
Orange County Sanitation District



*Our Mission: To protect public health and the environment by providing effective wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling.*