April 9, 2018

The Honorable Mike McGuire
California State Senate
State Capitol Room 5061
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 929 (McGuire) – Support [as amended March 6, 2018]

Dear Senator McGuire:

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD), I am writing to support Senate Bill 929, which would require that all special districts maintain a website. The OCSD has featured a publicly accessible website for several years and therefore we encourage all special districts to strive toward the increased transparency that websites can provide.

Special districts like ours provide millions of Californians with essential local services and infrastructure. Communities form special districts when there is something the community wants, the community wants done well, and the community needs done with local control. As local service providers, few agencies in the State are as impactful on the day-to-day lives of Californians.

SB 929 will grant the public greater access to the services provided by special districts and will improve the transparency and accountability of the governing bodies who oversee them.

We believe that special districts are one of the most local forms of government, and we are committed to empowering our community to engage in its government. The increased transparency provided by SB 929 is consistent with our District’s values and will position special districts for the future. Increased transparency not only reduces liability on each special district, but plays a critical role in maintaining an informed community.

For these reasons, OCSD supports SB 929.

Sincerely,

Gregory C. Sebourn, PLS
Board Chairman

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