

Orange County Sanitation District

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May 13, 2019

The Honorable Ben Hueso
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4035
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Senate Bill 667 (Hueso)

Dear Senator Hueso:

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD), I am pleased to support Senate Bill 667, which would require CalRecycle to develop a five-year investment strategy to drive innovation and support technological development, as well as infrastructure, that would help California achieve its organic waste diversion and short lived climate pollutants reduction goals.

OCSD is a wastewater agency that serves over 2 million people in North and Central Orange County. The services that OCSD provides are critical to public health, water quality, and water supply in the region. As a resource recovery agency, the work that OCSD does is fundamental to the water supply reliability and resiliency of the entire region. In addition to its water quality services, OCSD also operates anaerobic digestors that take organic waste and convert it into energy that is used in the wastewater treatment process.

Over the last 24 years, roughly 180 active anaerobic digestors and compost facilities have been built in the State. To meet the 75 percent organics reduction goal set by SB 1383 in 2016, local agencies will need to finance, site, permit, and build at least double that number of facilities in the next 5-7 years at a cost of around \$3 billion in capital investment. In order to meet the aggressive goals set forth by SB 1383, local agencies such as OCSD who are willing and able to operate anaerobic digestors need additional financial tools and support. SB 667 provides the necessary investment and forward-thinking innovation that the State needs in order to achieve its organic waste diversion and short-lived climate pollutants reduction goals.

For these reasons, OCSD is pleased to support Senate Bill 667.

Sincerely,



David John Shawver
Board Chairman



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