September 16, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Signature Request for AB 2762 (Muratsuchi) – Cosmetics: safety

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD), I am writing to request that you sign AB 2762 which would expand the definition of adulterated cosmetics to include those that have per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) as ingredients. This bill would help reduce the amount of toxic substances including PFAS in the wastewater influent that OCSD receives.

OCSD is a public agency that provides wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling for approximately 2.6 million people in central and northwest Orange County. OCSD is a special district that is governed by a 25-member Board of Directors comprised of 20 cities, four special districts, and one representative from the Orange County Board of Supervisors. OCSD has two operating facilities that treat wastewater from residential, commercial, and industrial sources.

OCSD receives and treats over 185 million gallons of wastewater per day. The treated water is either sent to the Orange County Water District for advanced water purification and re-use or is sent to the ocean through an ocean outfall, which is carefully managed by OCSD.

OCSD has always been a good steward of public health and strives to protect the environment. Toxic substances, such as those found in cosmetic products, that enter the wastewater stream through domestic or residential sources are among the most difficult for OCSD to regulate and control. OCSD must rely heavily on public outreach and consumer product regulations to keep these chemicals from domestic or residential sources out of the wastewater stream. AB 2762 would help reduce the amount of toxic substances, including PFAS, in the wastewater influent that OCSD receives.

For the above reasons, OCSD requests that you sign AB 2762.

Sincerely,

David John Shawver
Board Chairman