



April 18, 2022

The Honorable Laura Friedman
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 6310
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2771 (Friedman): Cosmetic products: safety - SUPPORT

Assembly Health Committee - April 26, 2022

Dear Assembly Member Friedman:

On behalf of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), I am pleased to relay our support for your AB 2771 to prohibit the manufacture or sale of any cosmetic products containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in California.

The issue of PFAS in drinking water supplies is of growing concern in southern California—including to many of Metropolitan's member agencies and other retail water and groundwater management agencies within our region. Hundreds of groundwater wells in southern California are currently under scrutiny for PFAS contamination with the full extent of the problem still evolving. Some water agencies have detected two PFAS - perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) - above notification and response levels which has led these agencies to remove impacted water supplies from service or invest in costly treatment.

PFAS can enter source waters through landfills, treated wastewater discharge, or where chemicals were used in manufacturing or for industrial uses. Because PFAS do not break down and are resilient, they can accumulate and lead to elevated levels in groundwater near those sites. State and federal regulatory actions for PFAS continue to progress, moving towards strict standards to ensure public health protection. Metropolitan is supportive of measures that help reduce and/or control the introduction of PFAS into the environment.

Source control is a critical component to minimize the public's exposure to PFAS. While many companies are voluntarily phasing out certain PFAS in the United States, these compounds are still being manufactured outside of the country and are imported to the United States. We are encouraged that the proposed bill would curtail the sale of products containing PFAS - reducing a key source of PFAS and, in turn, helping to ensure protection of the environment and the public's drinking water supply.

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For these reasons, we support your bill to remove PFAS from all cosmetic products and require manufacturers to seek alternative materials that are not harmful to public health and the environment. We thank you for your leadership on this important issue, and we will urge an Aye vote on your bill when it comes up for hearing in the Assembly Committee on Health.

Sincerely,



Kathryn C. Viatella
Executive Legislative Representative

cc: Members of the Assembly Health Committee
Rosielyn Pulmano, Chief Consultant, Assembly Health Committee
Gino Folchi, Assembly Republican Consultant, Assembly Health Committee