



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

June 22, 2022

The Honorable Benjamin Allen
Chair, Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
1021 O Street, Room 3230
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT for Assembly Bill 1817 (Ting) – Support [As Amended May 6, 2022]

Hearing Date: June 29, 2022 – *Senate Committee on Environmental Quality*

Dear Senator Allen:

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA), representing approximately 1,000 independent special districts throughout the state, is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1817. CSDA represents all types of special districts, which provide millions of Californians with essential local services such as fire protection, water, healthcare, recreation, and parks and more.

Assembly Bill 1817 proposes to restrict the sale of textiles containing a class of chemicals known as perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS chemicals are pervasive in a variety of consumer products and can cause both health and environmental impacts. While PFAS is banned in some manufacturing processes, this bill seeks to further restrict its use by prohibiting the sale of textiles containing the chemicals. When these garments are washed, the chemicals are released into wastewater systems and will impact the watershed and potentially may end up in groundwater. Managing PFAS contamination is important for CSDA and many of our members. Remediation and treatment are difficult and costly, and source control is critical to deal with PFAS on the front end.

CSDA's numerous water and wastewater district members have long been concerned about the impacts of PFAS on their systems and the costs associated with treatment. Addressing one of the sources of the problem – textiles containing the chemicals – is a sensible solution that prevents PFAS from ever entering water and wastewater systems in the first place.

For these reasons, CSDA is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1817. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Rosario Cortés Kapeller
Senior Legislative Representative

CC: The Honorable Phillip Ting
Members, Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
Jacob O'Connor, Consultant, Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
Scott Seekatz, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Hazel Miranda, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom