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May 17, 2023

The Honorable Linda Sanchez
 The Honorable Lou Correa
 The Honorable Katie Porter
 The Honorable Michelle Steel
 The Honorable Young Kim

U.S. House of Representatives
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Members of the Orange County Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District (OC San), we write to express our support for the *Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety (WIPPES) Act* (H.R. 2964). OC San provides wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling for approximately 2.6 million people in central and northwest Orange County, CA. OC San’s primary mission is to protect public health and the environment through its services.

This bipartisan legislation takes a straightforward and reasonable approach to addressing the pervasive pollution problem stemming from the improper disposal of non-flushable wipes in the nation’s wastewater systems, and compliments California’s existing “Do Not Flush” label law, commonly referred to as AB 818. We urge you to co-sponsor the WIPPES Act and for Congress to act expeditiously to pass the legislation.

The WIPPES Act’s labeling requirements mirrors Assembly Bill 818’s by establishing the same clear and conspicuous standards for “Do Not Flush.” Including language, symbol, and scope of covered products. Additionally, it includes the negotiated penalty structure California’s clean water sector secured with the wipes industry should a manufacturer violate the label requirements. Furthermore, this legislation enjoys the support from the wipes industry and the national clean water sector, and environmental advocates who believe the legislation will advance our mutually shared interest to protect public infrastructure and the environment by promoting responsible disposal habits.

Thank you for your leadership to address and develop common-sense and bipartisan solutions to the unique problems related to the flushing of non-flushable wipes. Again, we urge you to co-sponsor H.R. 2964. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Cabral, Administration Manager at (714) 593-7581 or via mail at JCabral@ocsan.gov.

Sincerely,

Chad P. Wanke
 Board Chairman

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