



# CITY OF GARDEN GROVE PUBLIC WORKS

November 23, 2021

**Steven R. Jones**  
Mayor

**Kim Bernice Nguyen**  
Mayor Pro Tem - District 6

**George S. Brietigam**  
Council Member - District 1

**John R. O'Neill**  
Council Member - District 2

**Diedre Thu-Ha Nguyen**  
Council Member - District 3

**Patrick Phat Bui**  
Council Member - District 4

**Stephanie Klopfenstein**  
Council Member - District 5

The Honorable Congressman Correa  
2301 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Congresswoman Kim  
1306 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Congressman Lowenthal  
108 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Congresswoman Porter  
1117 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Congresswoman Steel  
1113 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Correa, Kim, Lowenthal, Porter, and Steel:

Orange County is a national leader in water recycling with the Groundwater Replenishment System, storm water capture behind Prado Dam and most recently regarding extraction of PFAS from our drinking water. These landmark projects are environmentally superior and have saved Orange County ratepayers billions of dollars from not purchasing expensive, imported water.

It has come to my attention that proposed federal legislation, PFAS Action Act of 2021 (H.R. 2467), would attach CERCLA liability to the Orange County Water District (OCWD) as it removes PFAS from drinking water. OCWD has no responsibility for the presence of PFAS and the concept of imposing CERCLA liability on water districts runs contrary to the "Polluter Pays" public policy. I respectfully request that you assist OCWD's efforts in garnering an exemption from CERCLA liability for water districts as they properly remove PFAS from drinking water.

Additionally, the House-approved Infrastructure Act (H.R. 3684) unfortunately included a section that amends the Safe Drinking Water Act to delete the longstanding cost-benefit analysis in the development of new drinking water standards. Under current law, the US-EPA ensures that public health benefits of new drinking water standards are balanced with the compliance costs that water system ratepayers will ultimately incur. Eliminating the cost-benefit analysis would potentially subject ratepayers of all income levels to higher costs. Please support the efforts of OCWD to maintain the cost-benefit analysis in the Safe Water Drinking Act.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Jones  
Mayor

cc: Board President Steve Sheldon