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## Orange County Sanitation District

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April 8, 2019

The Honorable Bill Quirk  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol Room 2163  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### RE: Assembly Bill 292 (Quirk) Potable Reuse Terminology – Support

Dear Assembly Member Quirk:

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD), a public agency that provides wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal services for approximately 2.6 million people in central and northwest Orange County, I am writing to thank you for introducing Assembly Bill (AB) 292.

AB 292 proposes to eliminate the terms “indirect” and “direct” from potable reuse terminology in the statute and, as proposed to be amended, make minor changes to the definition of “Treated Drinking Water Augmentation.”

The terms “indirect” and “direct” only add to the confusion about potable reuse and proposed projects. The term “Direct Potable Reuse” also implies that purified recycled water is going directly into the drinking water supply, which is not the case with raw water augmentation projects and can be detrimental to project understanding and acceptance.

The Orange County Sanitation District and the Orange County Water District are partners in the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), the world's largest advanced water purification system for potable reuse. The GWRS takes highly treated wastewater that would have normally been released into the Pacific Ocean and produces up to 100 million gallons of high-quality water every day using a three-step advanced treatment process. This is enough water to meet the needs of nearly 850,000 residents in north and central Orange County, California.

For these reasons, the Orange County Sanitation District is pleased to support Assembly Bill 292. Please contact Jennifer Cabral, OCSD's Public Affairs Supervisor at (714) 593-7581 or via email at [jcabral@ocsd.com](mailto:jcabral@ocsd.com) should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David John Shawver  
Board Chairman

cc: Orange County Legislative Delegation

*Our Mission: To protect public health and the environment by providing effective wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling.*