



CITY OF OCEANSIDE

August 10, 2020

The Honorable Bill Quirk
Chair, Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee
1020 N St. Room 171
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1044 (Allen) Firefighting Equipment and Foam: PFAS Chemicals
Notice of SUPPORT *(As Amended 6/18/20)*

Dear Assembly Member Quirk,

On behalf of the City of Oceanside, I'm writing in support of SB 1044 (Allen), which would prohibit the use of firefighting foam containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and would require notification of the presence of PFAS in the protective equipment of firefighters.

SB 1044 is a common-sense Bill, which will have positive environmental impacts without compromising public safety. Firefighting foam accounts for a significant amount of the total global production of PFAS, which can move through soil, seep into groundwater, or be carried through the air, and is linked to health issues. SB 1044 will encourage the use of available PFAS-free firefighting foams by curbing the manufacturing, sale, and use of class B firefighting foam that contains PFAS and imposing civil penalties on those that violate the requirements of this measure.

Of utmost concern, PFAS has contaminated public water systems that serve at least 7.5 million people in California. SB 1044 is a step in the right direction, working to reduce the presence of this toxic chemical within the environment.

The City of Oceanside has relied on the use of its local groundwater supplies in the Mission Basin. The protections cited in this bill would further strengthen protections of this precious resource allowing for future generations to benefit from its use.

Sincerely,

Peter Weiss
MAYOR

cc. Senator Pat Bates
Assembly Member Tasha Boerner Horvath
Catherine Hill, League of California Cities
cityletters@cacities.org