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MEMBER AGENCY OF THE
METROPOLITAN WATER
DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Glen D. Peterson
MWD Representative

April 2, 2019

The Honorable Bill Quirk, Chair
Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee
1020 N Street, Room 171
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1672 (Bloom): Flushable Products - SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Quirk:

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District supports AB 1672 (Bloom), which would prohibit the sale of products labeled "flushable" unless the product meets specified performance standards.

Certain products that are currently on the market, such as "flushable" wipes, are often advertised as such, when in fact, they are anything but flushable. To truly be considered flushable and sewer system friendly, these products need to disintegrate once they come into contact with water, much like standard toilet paper.

Inaccurate labeling that does not meet an established standard, is misleading to customers and a detriment to sewer systems throughout the State. These products often accumulate and can clog sewer pipes, causing costly sanitary sewer overflows that are harmful to humans and ecosystems. To prevent this, it is necessary to conduct more frequent cleaning and flushing of sewer pipes with potable water, which is wasteful.

For the above reasons, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District supports this measure and we thank you for your leadership on this issue. We are hopeful that the bill, with your Committee's support, will be the first step toward protecting costly sanitation equipment, public health and the environment by using appropriate labeling on wet wipe packaging to guide consumers on the proper disposal of these items.

Sincerely,

Mike McNutt
Public Affairs and Communications Manager

cc: Assemblymember Richard Bloom
Members, Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials
Committee
Jessica Gauger, California Association of Sanitation Agencies
Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel
Paige Brokaw, Consultant, Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic
Materials Committee