



June 10th, 2022

The Honorable Ben Allen, Chair
Environmental Quality Committee, California State Senate
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2771 (Friedman): PFAS Free Cosmetics – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Allen:

The below organizations write to you in support of AB 2771, a bill that will prohibit the sale in California of beauty and personal care products containing intentionally added perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), highly toxic chemicals.

We appreciate the opportunity to support this important legislation. Our organizations share an increasing concern about the vast use of PFAS chemicals, which build up in our bodies, are extremely

resistant to breaking down, and are now a ubiquitous presence in the environment. PFAS are among the most persistent toxic compounds in existence. They are found in the blood of virtually everyone on earth, including newborn babies.

Very low doses of PFAS chemicals in drinking water have been linked to increased risk of cancer, reproductive and immune system harm and liver and thyroid disease. PFAS exposure is also linked to interference with vaccines, and is associated with an elevated risk of breast cancer, increased cholesterol and other serious health concerns.

Despite their well-documented risks, PFAS chemicals are added to many consumer products, including beauty and personal care products. In 2018, Environmental Working Group scientists scoured the Skin Deep database, which contains ingredient lists for more than 85,000 cosmetics, and identified 13 different PFAS compounds used in more than 50 brands. PTFE – a PFAS chemical better known as Teflon – was found in more than 200 different products.

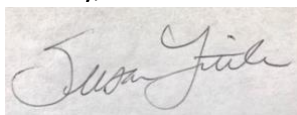
In 2021, Clearya reviewed its database of 50,000 beauty and personal care products and found 1,000 cosmetic products, made by 120 brands, that contained PFAS. That same year, the University of Notre Dame tested 231 cosmetics and found that more than half of the products tested contained PFAS. According to this study, more than three-quarters of waterproof mascara, nearly two-thirds of foundations and liquid lipsticks, and more than half of eye and lip products had high fluorine concentrations, indicating the likely presence of PFAS.

Given the serious impact of PFAS chemicals on public health and the environment, we don't believe that these chemicals should be in the beauty and personal care products millions of Californians use every day. Eliminating intentionally added PFAS from cosmetic products will also reduce the amount of PFAS that flushes down the drain after we bathe or is tossed into landfills.

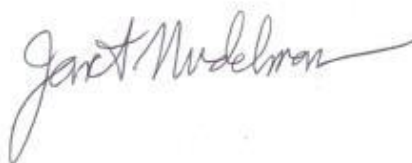
The Legislature has already acted to prohibit the use of PFAS in food packaging, firefighting foam, and children's products. We would ask that the Legislature also approve AB 2771, which would not allow cosmetics sold in California to contain these toxic chemicals.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,



Susan Little
Senior Advocate, California Government
Affairs
Environmental Working Group (Co-Sponsor)



Janet Nudelman
Sr. Director of Program and Policy
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(Co-Sponsor)



Jenn Engstrom
State Director
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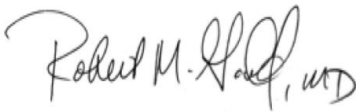
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Andria Ventura
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Onyemka Obiekea
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Jim Lindburg

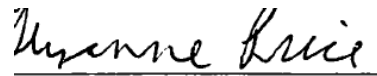
Jim Lindburg
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Katherine Carvlin

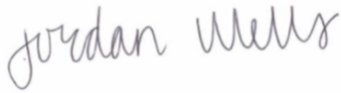
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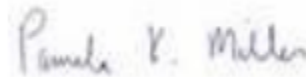
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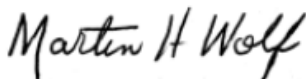
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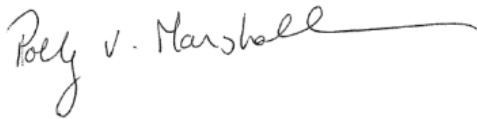
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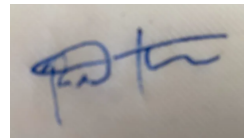
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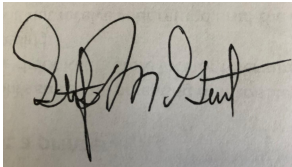
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