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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 15, 2021

RE: Testimony for HB 127 Maryland Paint Stewardship Program

Good Afternoon Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Chair, Vice Chair, and Members,

For the record, I am Delegate Regina T. Boyce here to testify on HB 127 Maryland Paint Stewardship, HB 127 establishes the “PaintCare” Program in Maryland. There are currently 11 established programs across the country (California, Colorado, Connecticut, D.C., Maine, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington). If passed, again, Maryland will be the 12th established program. Last year, as HB890, this committee passed this legislation 16-4 and passed the house 98-35.

Waste Today states that 10% of all paint purchased in the U.S. – about \$78 million gallons per year – goes unused. According to The Paint Stewardship Institute (PSI), it costs an average of \$8 per gallon to recycle, which means it “costs more than \$500 million to manage” end-of-life in the U.S. About 80% of the paint can be recycled into new paint. PaintCare was created by the American Coatings Association, paint manufacturers, with the goal of decreasing paint waste and recycling more postconsumer paint by setting up drop-off locations in each state. The program accepts architectural paint, specifically latex house paint, oil-based house paint, primer, stains, sealers, and varnish and shellac at five gallons or less. The program will be funded by a fee, not a deposit nor tax, placed on each container of paint sold in the state. The fee fully funds the program, including the yearly independent audit.

PaintCare partners with paint and hardware stores, as well as solid waste Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Programs, to identify and create voluntary drop-off sites. Partnerships with HHW programs and government collection programs reduce yearly cost in transportation, recycling, and proper disposal of leftover paint. Postconsumer paint is often the number one product, by volume and cost, coming into HHW programs.

EPR (extended producer responsibility) laws are becoming more common. The U.S. has 119 EPR laws on 14 products in 33 states and D.C. EPR products include items such as batteries, mattresses, medication, carpet, e-products, and syringes. The bill before you today is an EPR law requesting establishment in Maryland for paint.

Thank you for your time and consideration again for HB 127. I thank you for a favorable report.

Delegate Regina T. Boyce

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Regina T. Boyce".