



March 15, 2021

**INTERNATIONAL PAINT
RECYCLING ASSOCIATION**
www.recycledpaint.org

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Facilitator

Product Stewardship Institute

Senator Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice-Chair
Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
Maryland General Assembly
Miller Senate Office Building – 2 West
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Support for HB 127, An act concerning Maryland Paint
Stewardship**

Dear Chair Pinsky, Vice-Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee:

The International Paint Recycling Association (IPRA) **strongly supports** **HB 127** to establish a Maryland Paint Stewardship Program, and we ask that you report the bill favorably from your Committee.

IPRA is an association of 12 North American recycled paint manufacturers with decades of experience in recycling post-consumer paint back into high quality paint and other recycled products. The group is facilitated by the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI).

Each year, about 10 percent of paint purchased by Maryland residents becomes leftover, resulting in more than 1.3 million gallons of leftover paint per year in the state. If all this paint were to be managed properly through household hazardous waste collections, it would cost more than \$10 million per year.

HB 127 would establish a convenient statewide paint collection and recycling program for all Maryland residents and businesses that is operated and financed by the paint industry.

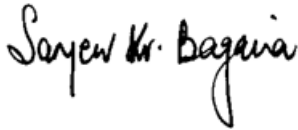
Paint stewardship legislation is actively supported by the American Coatings Association. Legislation is also supported by a vast majority of paint retailers, who value the opportunity to bring more customers into their stores by providing paint collection services. Producer responsibility for paint is not an uphill battle against manufacturers and retailers, but rather an opportunity to work with the industry to benefit your constituents financially and environmentally, and to make leftover paint management more convenient for them.

HB 127 is consistent with paint stewardship legislation passed in the following states and jurisdictions: District of Columbia, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, California, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, and Minnesota. This model bill has produced tremendous results, including the following (since 2009):

- Collected more than 38 million gallons of leftover paint;
- Relieved local governments of over \$150 million in paint transportation and processing costs;
- Created more than 200 jobs related to paint collection and recycling; and
- Added more than 1,775 voluntary collection sites (77% of which are retailers), providing far greater convenience to residents and decreasing the burden on local government programs.

We respectfully urge your support for this important legislation. If you have any questions, feel free to call Sanjeev Bagaria, CEO of GDB International and President of IPRA, at (732) 246-3001 or sanjeev@gdbinternational.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sanjeev Bagaria
President, International Paint Recycling Association

Cc: Delegate Regina Boyce