

SB143: Maryland Paint Stewardship

Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

February 8, 2022

Position: Favorable

Dear Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Committee,

Clean Water Action and Maryland PIRG support SB143 to establish a paint stewardship program for Maryland.

Many Maryland jurisdictions offer paint collection as part of their hazardous waste management, but the frequency and convenience of drop-off locations and hours vary. Paint collection is one of the most costly components of household hazardous waste management.

The proposed Paint Stewardship program would establish a program for disposing of the end-of-life of household paint which would be more convenient to consumers and less costly for local jurisdictions. The proposed program provides for collection so that at least 90% of Maryland residents have a collection site that is within a 15-mile radius, and that urban areas have an additional site for every 50,000 residents.

Producer responsibility, like that outlined in SB143, is an effective way to manage waste, especially hazardous waste like paints that when disposed of improperly pose negative impacts on our waterways and environment, public health, and sewer infrastructure.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report.

Thank you,

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