

**Testimony of Andrew Hinz for
HB0018 - Public Schools – Maryland Paint Stewardship**

Environment & Transportation Committee Members,

The Program will save money for local governments, foster reuse of paint products, and reduce waste management challenge. Please issue a FAVORABLE report in committee.

I have been a DIY painter in Maryland for 50 years.

ALL paints must be managed responsibly. This bill achieves an effective balance between consumer, producer, and local community/government sharing of responsibility and expense and risk management.

All counties will realize an increase in reuse and recycling of paint and a reduction in waste under the program.

According to the Product Stewardship Institute, about 10% of latex and oil-based paint is leftover or unused. Leftover paint is the most costly component of household hazardous waste management for local governments. Eighteen counties and the City of Baltimore offer some paint collection to their residents, but the frequency and convenience of drop-off locations vary. Eleven counties offer latex paint collect, 19 counties offer oil-based paint collection, and five counties – Dorchester, Frederick, Garrett, Somerset, and Washington – have no paint collection or recycling. Under the Paint Stewardship Program, drop-off sites would be conveniently located at retailers where paint is sold and at special events; pick-up service for large quantities would also be arranged.

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