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Environment and
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Subcommittees

Housing and Real Property

Chair

Natural Resources, Agriculture
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 15, 2023

RE: Testimony for HB255 Maryland Paint Stewardship Program

Good Afternoon Chairman Barve, Vice Chair Stein, and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

For the record, I am Delegate Regina T. Boyce presenting **HB255 Maryland Paint Stewardship Program**. For historical reference, this bill was introduced in 2020 as HB890, 2021 as HB127, and in 2022 as HB18. The Environment and Transportation Committee and the House passed this bill in the same form for the last three years.

HB255 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, Maryland will be the **12th established program**. **Ten percent 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 more than \$500 million to manage” end-of-life paint in the U.S., an average of \$8 per gallon to recycle. **About 80% of that 10% of paint can be recycled into new paint**. The Canadian program leads the world in post-consumer recycling. The program is in every providence, and in 2017 Canada recycled 28 million kilograms of paint, enough to paint two million houses. Recycling one gallon of paint could save 13 gallons of water, 1 quart of oil, 250,000 gallons of water pollution, 13.74 pounds of CO₂, and save enough energy to power the average home for three-hours, or cook six meals in a microwave oven.

Created by the **American Coatings Association**, paint manufacturers, PaintCare’s nationwide goal is to decrease paint waste and recycle more postconsumer paint by setting up drop-off locations in each state. The program is funded by a fee placed on each container of paint sold in the state that is between a pint and five gallons. 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 throughout the year. Partnerships with HHW programs and government collection programs reduce yearly cost in transportation, recycling, and proper disposal. **Postconsumer paint is often the number one product, by volume and cost, coming into HHW programs nationwide.**

The U.S. has **131 EPR (extended producer responsibility)** laws on 16 products in 33 states and D.C. These EPR laws protect over one billion acres of land, and over 250 million people. EPR products include items such as batteries, mattresses, medication, carpet, solar panels, e-products, and syringes. The

bill before you today is an example of an EPR law requesting establishment in Maryland for paint recycling.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I again ask for a favorable report for HB255.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Regina T. Boyce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue ink color.

Regina T. Boyce