



October 30, 2017

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo  
Governor, New York City  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

**RE: Inclusion of S.881/A.1038 in the State Budget Bill**

Dear Governor Cuomo:

On behalf of six statewide recycling/waste management organizations, we respectfully request that you include S.881/A.1038 in the State Budget Bill to provide municipal relief by establishing a paint stewardship program in New York State.

S.881/A.1038 would hold paint manufacturers responsible for financing and safely managing the nearly four million gallons of leftover paint generated annually in New York State. Unfortunately, most of this paint is currently disposed in the garbage or down storm drains despite the efforts of local governments, which spend an estimated \$3.1 million each year (typically 50% of their municipal household hazardous waste budgets) to collect and manage a small fraction of this paint. To safely manage all of New York's leftover paint would cost about \$31 million annually, which would be completely covered by the passage of S.881/A.1038. The program would also establish new convenient locations for residents to drop off their paint, increase paint reuse and recycling, and create recycling-sector jobs.

S.881/A.1038 is actively supported by the American Coatings Association (ACA), which represents nearly all paint manufacturers in the country. ACA is the only industry in the U.S. that has taken full responsibility for managing their product after consumer use. ACA established PaintCare Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, to plan and operate paint stewardship programs in states that pass producer responsibility laws. PaintCare's record of success includes the following:

- Saved taxpayers over \$69 million and created over 200 jobs that led to recycling over 17 million gallons of high quality paint (60-80 percent of which is recycled back into paint).
- Created more than 1,700 voluntary retail collection sites, providing far greater convenience to residents and decreasing the burden on local government programs.

This bill represents a tremendous opportunity to work with the industry to benefit New York municipalities and residents financially, socially, and environmentally.

***We urge you to include S.881/A.1038 in the State Budget Bill as a municipal relief measure.***

Respectfully,

New York Product Stewardship Council  
Solid Waste Association of North America, New York Chapter  
New York State Association for Solid Waste Management  
New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling  
Federation of NY Solid Waste Associations  
Product Stewardship Institute