



NYPSC
NEW YORK PRODUCT
STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL



**PRODUCT
STEWARDSHIP
INSTITUTE**

April 8, 2019

The Honorable Steve Englebright
Chair, New York Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 621
Albany, NY 12248

RE: Support for A.6373 (Englebright) same as: S.4351): Establishes post-consumer paint collection program

Dear Chairman Englebright:

The New York Product Stewardship Council (NYPSC), the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI), and the 43 other local governments, municipal and industry associations, and environmental groups that are signees of this letter strongly support A.6373 (same as: S.4351) to establish a paint stewardship program in New York State.

Nearly 4 million gallons of leftover paint are generated annually in New York State. Local governments would need to spend \$31 million to properly manage this waste stream. Enacting **A.6373** relieves financial burdens on municipalities, establishes new convenient locations for residents to drop off their paint year round, increases paint reuse and recycling, and creates recycling-sector jobs. Upon passage of the paint stewardship law, several NY State businesses are ready to expand or launch operations to process this material.

Despite the efforts of local government, which spend an estimated \$3.1 million each year to collect old paint, millions of gallons of leftover paint are disposed of in the garbage or poured down the drain annually.

A.6373 is actively supported by local governments throughout New York State, professional recycling and solid waste associations, and numerous environmental groups. When passed, PaintCare, an industry non-profit, would manage the paint, thus freeing municipalities and the state agency of much of the management and financial burden.

A.6373 is consistent with paint stewardship laws passed in eight states and Washington D.C. – including Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, and Vermont – which produced the following early results:

- Saved taxpayers over \$150 million, created over 200 jobs, and led to the collection of more than 34 million gallons of paint, much of which was recycled back into high quality paint.
- Created more than 1,700 voluntary retail collection sites, providing far greater convenience to residents and decreasing the burden on local government programs.

The Paint Stewardship Program (**A.6373**) represents a tremendous opportunity to work with all stakeholders to benefit New York municipalities financially, socially, and environmentally. **Thank you for sponsoring this important environmental initiative.**

New York Product Stewardship Council
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Respectfully submitted on behalf of the municipalities, environmental organizations, and businesses listed on the following page.

New York Product Stewardship Council
New York State Association of Counties
New York City Department of Sanitation
Product Stewardship Institute

Schenectady County
Ontario County
Niagara County
Broome County
Madison County
Tompkins County

Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency
Oneida - Herkimer Solid Waste Authority
Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste
Management Authority
Lewis County Solid Waste Department
Steuben County Department of Public Works
Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency
Ithaca Area Wastewater Treatment Facility

Town of Canandaigua
Town of Gardiner
Town of Lafayette
Town of North Elba
Town of Southold
City of Kingston
Village of Tivoli
New York League of Conservation Voters

New York Water Environment Association
New York State Association for Reduction,
Reuse, and Recycling
New York State Association for Solid
Waste Management
The Federation of New York Solid Waste
Associations
Solid Waste Association of North America,
New York Chapter
Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Environmental Advocates of New York
League of Women Voters of the
Mid-Hudson Region
Lower East Side Ecology Center
Schenectady County Environmental
Advisory Council
Town of Red Hook Conservation Advisory
Council
Capital District Habitat for Humanity
ReStore
Wells College, Center for Sustainability
and the Environment
Syracuse Habitat for Humanity
Clean Harbors Environmental Services
Sims Municipal Recycling
Solara, Inc
Loop Recycling
Toshiba Business Solutions
Greening USA