



January 30, 2025

The Hon. John Hunt, Chair  
House Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room: 302-304  
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: HB 451, establishing the paint product stewardship program.**

Dear Chairman Hunt and Honorable Committee Members,

We, the undersigned organizations, strongly support HB 451, a broadly endorsed bill that will make paint recycling easy and effective. We urge the House Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee to vote *ought to pass* on HB 451.

HB 451, a bipartisan, industry-supported bill, would establish a **retail paint collection program** that shifts the burden of paint disposal from consumers to producers, ensuring unwanted paint is repurposed rather than wasted.

Under this program, residents can drop off leftover paint at participating retail stores, regardless of where it was purchased. The industry-led paint stewardship program will reuse salvageable paint and recycle the rest into products like concrete mixtures and landscaping materials.

This program will **keep toxics out of our environment** and **save taxpayers and municipalities money**. Paint contains toxic chemicals like volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and improper disposal can contaminate our water and land. The stewardship program is a practical solution that

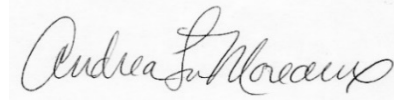
makes fiscal sense – since 2010 paint collection programs in other states have saved governments and taxpayers over \$150 million.<sup>i</sup>

For these reasons, we strongly support HB 451 and urge you to vote *ought to pass*.

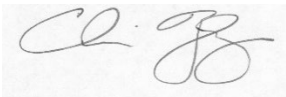
Sincerely,



Heidi Trimarco  
Staff Attorney  
Conservation Law Foundation



Andrea LaMoreaux  
President  
NH LAKES



Chris Thayer  
Senior Director, External Affairs and Contracts  
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Carol R. Foss  
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Barbara Richter  
Executive Director  
NH Association of Conservation Commissions



Matt Leahy  
Public Policy Director  
Society for the Protection of  
New Hampshire Forests

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<sup>i</sup> Product Stewardship Institute, *Product Stewardship Can Save Money While Improving Environmental Outcomes*, available at [https://productstewardship.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2019\\_05\\_PS\\_Can\\_Save\\_Money\\_Mu.pdf](https://productstewardship.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2019_05_PS_Can_Save_Money_Mu.pdf)