



May 4, 2026

Representative Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.

Chair

House Corporations Committee

82 Smith Street

Providence, RI 02903

RE: House Bill 8499 – An Act Relating to Health and Safety, Proper Management of Unused Paint

Dear Chair Solomon and Members of the House Corporations Committee:

On behalf of the American Coatings Association, I write to you in strong opposition to House bill 8499, a bill that attempts to repeal the highly successful and popular PaintCare program.

Since the program began in 2014, the PaintCare program in Rhode Island has helped to reduce waste and pollution as a result of improper disposal of paint. As one of PaintCare's first east coast programs, the Rhode Island stands out as a model for others. The program has collected nearly 1 million gallons of paint, maintains a network of 29 year-round drop-off sites, and 99.9% of Rhode Island residents live within 15 miles of a drop-off site. In 2025, the program recycled 85% of the latex paint it receives into recycled-content paint.

In 2025, in addition to daily retail and transfer station drop-off opportunities, the program provided:

- Paint collection at 20 household hazardous waste events in partnership with RIRRC; and,
- 34 free large volume pickups from residents and businesses who have accumulated paint over many years due to the institutional, logistical, and financial barriers to disposal.

Put simply, the program is working and working well and should not be repealed. It is beloved by residents and small businesses alike who have come to rely on the PaintCare program as a public good that is available at their local paint store or transfer station when they need it.

Thank you for your consideration of ACA's comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions and/or require further clarification on the benefits of the program.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Jones

Director, Extended Producer Responsibility

American Coatings Association

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