



March 14, 2019

The Honorable Representative Timm Ormsby
222A John L O'Brien
P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Honorable Chairman Ormsby and members of the House Appropriations Committee:

We are writing today on behalf of the members of the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and the Washington Association of County Solid Waste Managers (WACSWM) to urge support for House Bill 1652.

Washington's counties play a key role in managing solid waste programs across our state's numerous and diverse communities. We share the responsibility for managing waste streams, including recycling, in a sustainable and environmentally-friendly manner with other local government agencies, the state and private industry. We are committed to strategies that reduce waste and encourage recycling. As stewards of this critical public service, we consider this among our paramount responsibilities. It is with that spirit that we provide these comments.

House Bill 1652 requires the manufacturers of paint to finance and manage a paint recycling program for Washington State. It is supported by the American Coatings Association, the trade group that represents paint manufacturers and distributors. Similar programs operate in other states and enjoy widespread support among paint manufacturers, retailers and contractors. This program will provide the following benefits to communities across the state:

- It removes a known contaminant from solid waste management streams. Certain paints, especially oil-based paints and stains which are included in this program, must be managed within our moderate risk waste programs. These programs struggle for operational sustainability in many communities. In some areas, there is no regularly operating moderate risk waste program.
- Washington State residents need a convenient, low-cost option to recycle or dispose of their unwanted and unneeded coatings.
- The program is required to be developed, implemented and operated by the private sector. It won't increase costs to local solid waste programs or the state.
- A paint stewardship program is good for our environment. It will provide an easy opportunity for proper disposal, preventing illegal dumping and stockpiling. Proper disposal prevents ground water contamination and other public health and safety concerns.

Please support House Bill 1652. It is sensible legislation that creates a needed program for recycling architectural coatings and provides real benefits for all residents of our state.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Jewell
Policy Director
Washington State Association of Counties



Brenda Blanchfield
Co-Chairman
Washington Association of County Solid Waste Managers

CC: Representative Steve Bergquist
Representative June Robinson
Representative Drew Stokesbary
Representative Skyler Rude
Representative Michelle Caldier
Representative Bruce Chandler
Representative Eileen Cody
Representative Laurie Dolan
Representative Mary Dye
Representative Joe Fitzgibbon
Representative Drew Hansen
Representative Larry Hoff
Representative Zack Hudgins
Representative Laurie Jinkins
Representative Vicki Kraft
Representative Nicole Macri
Representative Gina Mosbrucker
Representative Eric Pettigrew
Representative Gerry Pollet
Representative Cindy Ryu
Representative Joe Schmick
Representative Tana Senn
Representative Larry Springer
Representative Derek Stanford
Representative Mike Steele
Representative Pat Sullivan
Representative Robert Sutherland
Representative Gael Tarleton
Representative Steve Tharinger
Representative Mike Volz
Representative Alex Ybarra