

March 14, 2013

The Honorable Jules Bailey, Chair
House Committee on Energy and the Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Support for Senate Bill #791 and House Bill #2048 – Repeal of Sunset on
Architectural Paint Stewardship Program

Dear Chair Bailey and Committee Members:

Valspar supports S.B. 791 and H.B. 2048, entitled “Repeal of Sunset on Architectural Paint Stewardship Program.”

Since 1806, Valspar has delivered the latest innovations, the finest quality, and the best customer service in the coatings industry. With more than 9,500 employees in over 25 countries, Valspar is in a truly unique position to supply customers with the ideal coatings solutions for their needs, including:

- Interior and Exterior paints primarily for the do-it-yourself market
- Cabot Varnishes and Stains for the wood care market
- Waterproofers and sealers for concrete and masonry
- High performance floor and deck coatings
- Primers, Sealers, and Undercoaters

Headquartered in Minneapolis, MN, our diverse array of products makes us one of the most comprehensive suppliers, and the sixth largest paint and coatings company in the world. Valspar is committed to strong environmental performance, from minimizing the environmental impact of our facilities, to developing innovative solutions for our customers. Valspar seeks to make a positive impact in the communities where we live and work.

Valspar's largest retail partner is Lowe's which has an employee base of approximately one-quarter of a million people nation-wide.

The program has been successful in Oregon. In two years of operations, the non-profit organization that we created – PaintCare – has increased the number of collection sites to 102 from the 15 available pre-program. The majority of these sites, 75%, are paint retail stores – so consumers and contractors can bring their leftover paint back to the same places they buy paint – 7 days a week, retail hours. Over one million gallons of paint has been collected with 100% of that paint being recycled or beneficially reused. PaintCare has also recycled the paint containers collected, resulting in 107 and 131 tons of plastic and metal cans, respectively, being recycled.

As you are aware, the impetus for the pilot derives from a several year multi-stakeholder Paint Product Stewardship Initiative. The ultimate goal of this initiative is a nationally coordinated system, for the management of unused paint. Since the pilot began in OR almost three years ago, the program has also begun operating in California and will begin operations in Connecticut and Rhode Island this year.

Thus, we support repealing the sunset date on the program and making PaintCare permanent in the great State of Oregon. In advance, thank you for your support of this legislation.

PaintCare is good for the environment, good for consumers and good for the economy.

Sincerely,

Aaron Erter

Aaron Erter
Vice-President Consumer Leadership
The Valspar Corporation