

January 19, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the Ecology Commission of the Town of Telluride, are writing to oppose Senate Bill 45, which aims to repeal the Paint Stewardship Act. The Paint Stewardship Act provides for the establishment of a system to collect, recycle and/or safely dispose of postconsumer architectural paint by increasing paint collection sites and educational outreach.

According to the 2016 Annual Report, the program has been a success. In 2016, 672,029 gallons of postconsumer paint were processed. Of this impressive number of gallons, only 14% was eventually sent to a landfill. The remaining 86% was reused, recycled, used as landfill cover or as fuel. In addition, 236 tons of plastic and metal containers were recycled.

Finally, this program pays for itself through the collection of small fees at the point of sale. In 2016, \$6,778,509 in fees was collected. These fees were used to cover all costs, including transport and processing, outreach and education, and staffing and administration. The program ended the year with a surplus of \$2,114,696.

Our experience in Telluride, and in San Miguel County, reflects the success seen around the state. From 2016 to 2017 collection totals increased 31%. The collection bins made available through the Paintcare program save our county \$600 per bin. In 2017 this savings amounted to \$10,200. We believe the small fee paid at the time of purchase is well worth the result of ensuring proper disposal of paint products: protecting our land and water from hazardous material contamination. Therefore, we urge you to oppose Senate Bill 45 and save the Paint Stewardship Act.

Sincerely,

Stacy Ostromecki  
Michael Mowry  
Lee Shea Betten  
Jonathan Greenspan  
Kathy Green  
Kiersten Stephens  
John Young  
DeLanie Young  
Karen Guglielmone