



In the City Council, April 4, 2024

Upon the Recommendation of Councilor Marissa Elkins and Councilor Deborah Klemer

24.054 A Resolution in Support of Paint Stewardship Legislation

WHEREAS:

- Landfill capacity in Massachusetts has rapidly declined and no new capacity is expected; and
- The costs of hauling and disposal of waste materials have increased by over 30% in the last five years and are expected to continue increasing at similar rates; and
- A paint stewardship law would create a convenient collection network to properly manage all architectural paint from business and residential sectors and substantially decrease inappropriate discarding of paint, which is a toxic substance that can cause harmful environmental pollution; and
- A paint stewardship law will divert paint from waste disposal to its best and highest use, whereby there will be a small but real decrease in the total waste going to landfills; and
- Paint stewardship laws have been demonstrated as an effective means of diverting paint from landfills in our neighboring states of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont, and New York; and
- A law supporting discarding of latex and oil-based paints at participating retail stores and transfer stations has strong support from constituents; and
- Municipal waste management systems were established a century ago to manage wastes like ashes, food scraps and horse manure, rather than the wide array of manufactured goods, including paint, which dominate today's municipal waste, and
- The Massachusetts Municipal Association passed a resolution which supports statewide producer responsibility legislation in January 2019,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton City Council urges the Massachusetts General Court and the leadership of both chambers to view the pending Paint Stewardship legislation favorably and take whatever actions are necessary to pass the Paint Stewardship bills into law, including voting favorably out of any and all committees. A Paint Stewardship law will begin relieving municipalities and consumers of ever-rising solid waste management costs,

significantly reduce a toxic waste going to landfills and decrease greenhouse gases generated by the paint industry by 4%.

Pending Paint Stewardship legislation in the 2023-2024 legislative session includes Bills

H.823 "An Act Relative to Paint Recycling"

S.542 "An Act to Establish Safe Paint Stewardship" and

S.551 "An Act Relative to Paint Recycling"

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra, State Senator Jo Comerford and State Representative Lindsay Sabadosa.

In City Council, April 4, 2024

Adopted in Final Reading on Roll Call Vote of 8 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent, 1 Recused (Councilor Jarrett)

Attest: Lana Krutys, Clerk of Council

Rules suspended, passed final reading and enrolled.

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Northampton City Council on April 4, 2024

Per Charter Section 3-6, non-binding resolutions are not required to be presented to the Mayor for approval.

Attest: Lana Krutys, Clerk of Council