

To: Chair Ken Helm and the House Energy and Environment Committee,

The Association of Oregon Counties supports the proposed stewardship program for household hazardous waste, H.B 4126. This proposal would create a Household Hazardous Waste Stewardship Fund and program, to be fully implemented by 2021. It calls on manufacturers of household hazardous substances to take responsibility for developing, financing and implementing a statewide system for the collection and environmentally sound management of household hazardous waste (HHW).

AOC believes that this type of life cycle approach is the best way not only to safely steward household hazardous waste, but to incentivize producers to reduce the hazard levels of the consumer products they produce. The program would be analogous to the existing statewide paint recycling program, Paint Care. Our members are interested in any measure which reduces the toxicity of landfilled materials, and reduces the landfilled waste stream, as we are interested in ensuring the longevity of the landfill and its services. We hope you will give strong consideration to this proposal.