



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

May 21, 2009

The Honorable James Metzen
President of the Senate
322 State Capitol Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear President Metzen:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 121, Senate File 477, a bill establishing a new fee on paint sold in Minnesota. The bill is similar to the paint fee bill I vetoed last year.

Legislators and stakeholders worked to address the concerns I raised in the 2008 veto message. However, this bill still places a double burden on consumers for an identical purpose. For example, it is estimated that local governments currently spend approximately \$6 million per year for used paint collection and recycling. Since current local tax revenues are paying for this program, the legislation should include a clear and direct mechanism to reduce local tax collections that currently support local paint collection and recycling programs.

I would be willing to consider legislation that creates an industry-managed paint collection and recycling program as long as the program clearly demonstrates taxpayers will not be paying for the same thing twice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Pawlenty".

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

President Metzen/SF 477

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cc: Representative Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Speaker of the House
Senator Lawrence J. Pogemiller, Majority Leader
Senator David Senjem, Minority Leader
Senator John Doll
Representative Marty Seifert, Minority Leader
Representative Brita Sailer
Mr. Peter S. Wattson, Secretary of the Senate (Legislative)
Mr. Albin Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
Mr. Mark Ritchie, Secretary of State