

Mad River Resource Management Alliance

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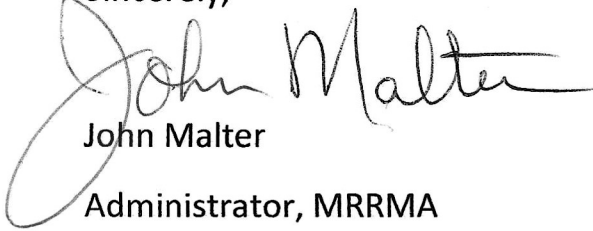
RE: Support for H. 115 -An act relating to household products containing hazardous substances.

Dear Chair Sheldon, Vice Chair McCullough and Members of the Committee

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of H. 115. The Mad River Resource Management Alliance(MRRMA) is a Solid Waste Management Entity(SWME) formed by an Interlocal Agreement for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste for the Town's of Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren and Waterbury. As with other SWMEs we are required by our Solid Waste Implementation Plan to hold a minimum of two Household Hazardous Waste(HHW)Collections events that are convenient to our residents if we do not have a permanent collection facility. There are no permanent HHW facilities in the MRRMA. The costs associated with our collection events have been ramping up nearly every year as a result of HHW Contractor rate increases and an increasing awareness on the part of our residents to do the right thing and properly dispose of their toxic and otherwise hazardous household products and residues. Our prices for disposal of HHW from 2018 through 2021 have ranged from \$739/ton to \$1,913/ton in 2021. We have contracted with a new HHW collector for the period 2022-2025 and based on their set up fees, collection of similar amounts of materials coming in from our residents and small businesses, Environmental Insurance and Security fees(EIS) of 13% on the total invoice, I anticipate our cost to rise by over 40% per event over our last contract. In order for our HHW Collection Program to be sustainable we need the implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility(EPR) with a stewardship program as envisioned in H.115. The costs should be borne by the manufacturers of the HHW. The SWMEs should be providing education on the proper management of these products. The EPR

Programs on architectural paints, batteries, electronic waste, mercury thermostats and fluorescent lamps and bulbs have led the way in environmental stewardship. Thank you for continuing these efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Malter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning of the first name.

John Malter

John Malter

Administrator, MRRMA