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April 1, 2024

Senator Ron Latz, Chair
Senator Clare Oumou Verbeten, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety
Room G-15 Minnesota State Capitol
75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for SF 3427, Boat Wrap Product Stewardship Program

Dear Chair Latz, Vice-Chair Oumou Verbeten, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SF 3427** to create an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program for boat wrap in Minnesota that will support resource conservation through waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and sustainability.

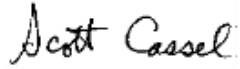
Minnesota leads the nation in boats per capita, with roughly 14,500 vessels per 100,000 population. Every winter, 180,000 to 300,000 boats must be winterized to survive the harsh Minnesota winters, but protecting these boats requires wrapping them in millions of pounds of plastic film, most of which is landfilled in the spring.

Minnesota already has experience enacting and implementing four EPR laws – for rechargeable batteries, electronics, paint, and mercury-containing thermostats. SF 3427 would build on the success of these programs and ensure the safe end-of-life management of boat wrap through a program funded and managed by boat wrap producers. SF 3427 incorporates the basic elements that PSI believes are critical for successful EPR legislation, including the formation of a producer responsibility organization, the development of a stewardship plan, stakeholder engagement, transparency requirements, and annual reporting from obligated producers.

The Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) is a national policy expert and consulting nonprofit that pioneered product stewardship in the United States along with a coalition of hundreds of state and local government officials, including those in Minnesota. Since 2000, PSI's policy models have helped to develop producer responsibility policies for many of the 136 EPR laws enacted for 18 industry sectors in 33 states.

I urge you to **support SF 3427** for the financial and environmental health of Minnesota's economy. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (617) 513-3954, or Scott@ProductStewardship.US.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Cassel". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Scott Cassel
Chief Executive Officer/Founder