EPA should be held to timely and scientifically sound standards for its new chemical reviews to do the following:

• Implement case-by-case, science-based risk evaluations for new chemical reviews, appropriate to the condition of use.

• Provide transparent, consistent, and reliable processes
for chemical evaluations that reflect pragmatic, real-world conditions.

• Focus evaluation on existing commercial uses while minimizing effects on downstream chemical users.

• Eliminate undue and burdensome recordkeeping, reporting, labeling and notification requirements.

The U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency’s (EPA)
implementation of the 2016
TSCA amendments have flawed
regulatory practices, leading
to unnecessary restrictions
on existing chemicals and
pronounced delays for new
chemical reviews.*

These policies are driving
companies to introduce the
best innovative products in
foreign markets, competitively
disadvantaging the U.S. coatings
industry, and preventing U.S.
consumers from enjoying the
most advanced and effective
products.

• Hundreds of technologically
innovative products that
would produce cost savings,
increase safety and improve
human health, not introduced
to U.S. consumers.

• Increased compliance
costs passed down
to consumers.

THE COATINGS INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Sound Science: The Pathway to Safer Technologies

The Issue Our Ask

The Impact

Pre-Manufacture Notice Process

is a Regulatory Roadblock for New,

Innovative Technologies

* EPA approves new and existing
chemicals through a process that is
initiated by a Pre-Manufacture Notice
(PMN). The original TSCA language
required the PMN process to be
completed in 90 days.

600
Average number of
PMN’s submitted annually
prior to 2016 TSCA
Amendments; down to
125 filed in 2025

2-3 Years

Average time it
takes EPA to
approve a PMN

446
The Backlog of
Current PMNs
under Review

To learn more about ACA’s policy objectives and

priorities visit Paint.org/advocacy/priorities. COATINGS: Growing America. Protecting America.

Sources: U.S. EPA + American Chemistry Council

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
are a group of more than 14,000 engineered chemicals used in a variety of industrial and consumer products because they provide superior performance characteristics.

Some PFAS chemistries present high risks for human health and the environment; but others do not. Polymers and fluoropolymers — which are the type of PFAS most commonly used in coatings — are very low concern because they are non-toxic, chemically stable, non- bioavailable.

That’s why coatings products that use low-concern PFAS should not be regulated the same as products using high-risk PFAS.

Associating paint and coatings products with high-risk PFAS creates an inaccurate perception of safety risks; restricts access to critical raw materials that provide optimal performance; and exposes the industry to increased product liability claims.

Polymers and fluoropolymers are used in very high performing coatings for critical infrastructure:

• Implantable medical devices
• Protection of bridges
• Water delivery and filtration systems
• Energy efficient buildings
• Electric vehicles
• Solar panels
• Aerospace
• Semiconductors critical to national defense

THE COATINGS INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

The Science of PFAS

• Do NOT treat all PFAS the same — they are not

• Coatings should not face the same regulatory restrictions as products with high-risk PFAS.

• EPA should instead pursue science-based
regulation that acknowledges the low
concern and low-risk profile of polymers
and fluoropolymers

The Issue Our Ask

The Impact • Fluoropolymers are chemically stable, non-toxic, non-bioavailable, non-
water soluble and non-mobile

• PFAS use in coatings is not associated
with contamination

• Fluoropolymers can be manufactured
safely without PFAS discharges

Unique Attributes of Polymers

and Fluoropolymers

Cool roof coatings
can reduce building
air conditioning by
approximately

25%

50%
lower life cycle
emissions vs acrylic
chemistry

90%+
reduction in VOC
compared to
traditional solutions.

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priorities visit Paint.org/advocacy/priorities. COATINGS: Growing America. Protecting America.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy + Solar Impulse Foundation

• Streamline the permitting process to unlock infrastructure investment

• Long-term reauthorization of the nation’s surface transportation programs and funding

• Designate paints and coatings as “construction materials” under BABA

• Establish a uniform domestic content standard that reflects coatings manufacturing realities

A robust infrastructure is a pillar of our nation’s vitality. Roads, rails, bridges, the aviation system, and our waterways are falling into disrepair.

Protective coatings are essential to
extending the life of bridges, highways, water infrastructure, and public buildings — often by decades.

Onerous and duplicative permitting
requirements delay construction activities and derail entire infrastructure projects — deferring the very work that coatings are needed to protect and complete.

Unfortunately, since many critical raw materials must be sourced outside the United States, coatings manufacturers face significant barriers in certifying to domestic content standards. For example:

• Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act requirements do not apply consistently
to coatings products across federal
programs, creating confusion, delays,
and unequal competitive conditions for manufacturers.

• Without explicit designation of
paints and coatings as “construction materials” under BABA, manufacturers face uncertainty about compliance
obligations on federally funded projects.

Long-term, broad-based investment

in infrastructure repair and

modernization — as well as regulatory

flexibility and efficiency — is

absolutely essential to maintaining our nation’s backbone and the

industries that support it.

THE COATINGS INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Modernizing & Protecting America’s Infrastructure

The Issue Our Ask

The Impact

623K+
U.S. bridges;
45% have exceeded
planned design lives

$45B
Federal investment
for bridge repair &
replacement
authorized by IIJA

$1.2T
Allocated by 2021
IIJA bipartisan
infrastructure law

To learn more about ACA’s policy objectives and

priorities visit Paint.org/advocacy/priorities. COATINGS: Growing America. Protecting America.

Source: 2025 American Civil Society of Engineers Infrastructure Report Card

• Support continuation of USMCA with improvements to
Rules of Origin to increase flexibility for raw material imports.

• Protect and expand the Annex II tariff exemption list
for essential industry goods.

• Specifically, the Rules of Origin should be amended to allow paint and coatings products to use Rule 3 for Mixtures and Blends

• Revise the rules of origin to allow for transformation from
“subheading,”rather than “chapter”;
• Include HTS 3208 in Section VI, Chapter 32 as an exclusion from
the preferential origin calculation and treat it the same as HTS 3206
and 3212; and
• De Minimis provisions should be retained

With more than 360,000
employees and $36 billion
combined in global shipments
and exports, the U.S. paint and
coatings industry is a significant
contributor to our national
growth and our global economy.

Tariff policy could negatively
impact our largest trading
partners and place American
jobs at risk. For example,
Canada and Mexico account
for 70% of our exports.
Shifting tariffs are creating
uncertainty and will negatively
impact the industry.

Although most coatings are
produced domestically, many
critical raw materials must
be sourced from abroad.
Reliable access to these inputs
is essential for manufacturing
safe, effective products.

Without improved trade
agreements, the coatings
industry could potentially lose
a $2B trade market for coatings
products which will impact
hundreds of thousands of
U.S. jobs.

THE COATINGS INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Ensuring American Manufacturing
& Securing America’s Supply Chain

The coatings industry depends on a stable, predictable trade environment.

RAW MATERIALS & EXPORT DEMAND FLOW

ASIA

raw material sourcing

CANADA
materials + export
market

MEXICO
materials + export
market

U.S.

PAINT & COATINGS

70% of total exports

are to Canada
& Mexico

The Issue Our Ask

The Impact $33B
U.S. Industry
Product Shipments

$2.8B
2025 U.S. industry
Exports

360K+
Industry
Employees

To learn more about ACA’s policy objectives and

priorities visit Paint.org/advocacy/priorities. COATINGS: Growing America. Protecting America.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Survey of Manufactures and Manufacturers’ Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) Survey; Bureau of Labor Statistics

THE COATINGS INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Securing American Home Affordability

The U.S. faces a housing shortage of
more than 4 million units following
decades of underbuilding. Elevated
mortgage rates have deepened the crisis:
roughly 60% of mortgage holders are
locked in below 4%, creating a powerful disincentive to sell and suppressing existing-home inventory well below pre-pandemic norms.

Because architectural coatings are directly tied to housing activity,
the slowdown in new construction and renovation has significantly reduced demand among both DIY consumers and professional contractors.

Strengthening American housing affordability and accessibility requires incentivized construction and renovation across residential and commercial sectors.

• Construction activity has stalled, with new housing starts well below the level needed to close the 4-million-unit deficit.

• Stagnant monetary policy — with rates remaining elevated — has failed to unlock the investment needed to spur meaningful homebuilding or renovation.

• The resulting drag on construction, real estate, and related industries suppresses economic growth broadly across the sector.

ACA urges swift implementation of The 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act, including innovative financial mechanisms to spur investment in residential and commercial construction. This includes:

• Modernizing borrowing limits to better reflect the construction marketplace

• Expanded access to guaranteed loan programs

• Strategies that improve overall affordability

The Issue Our Ask

The Impact

66%
of consumers believe that
there should be economic
incentives to home owners
to update older homes
and make them more
energy efficient

71%
of consumers agree that
federal tax legislation to
expand production of
affordable and attainable
housing is important

80%
of consumers agree that
housing affordability is an
issue in their area

75%
of consumers agree that
the there should
be federal tax incentives for
home ownership

To learn more about ACA’s policy objectives and

priorities visit Paint.org/advocacy/priorities. COATINGS: Growing America. Protecting America.

Source: National Association of Homebuilders Survey + NeighborWorks America