

**LISA REYNOLDS, MD  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
District 36**



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**March 2nd, 2021**

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the House Business and Labor Committee,

I am writing today in support of House Bill 2698, which would require electronics manufacturers to make available the tools, manuals, and parts needed to repair their products when they malfunction.

I support this bill for many reasons. First, our “disposable” approach to expensive electronics leads to environmental waste by filling landfills, estimated at 36 million metric tons in 2016. These devices contain heavy metals such as lead, arsenic and mercury that is unsafe for human health. If we could repair broken electronics, we can lower the environmental impact of production.

Second, repair of devices gives them a second life, including in the homes and in the hands of people who may not be able to afford the devices brand new. This is especially important as school and workplaces are dependent more than ever on remote access which requires a variety of devices.

Third, being able to repair a broken device empowers the owner when they are able to do the repair themselves. As a mom and as a pediatrician, I see the sense of accomplishment when people are able to fix a broken plate or a broken chromebook. My sons and I replaced a screen on a laptop and when we turned the laptop on, our shared feeling of success, and agency, was very satisfying. I hope they take this empowerment into their future lives.

Lastly, we must provide our repair shops and repair staff the “tools” they need to continue and to thrive in their livelihoods. The obstruction of self repair by manufacturers forces consumers to seek the manufacturers to repair their devices. This keeps repair prices elevated which then encourages replacement of devices, increasing revenues and profits for the large manufacturers.

HB 2698 is the right choice for Oregon for so many reasons. It protects the environment, it increases devices available for all Oregonians, and it fits into Oregon’s “can do” attitude.

Please join me in supporting HB 2698.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lisa Reynolds'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**Representative Lisa Reynolds**