



February 11, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Re: Support of SB 542

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and Members of the Committee

I am writing on behalf of Washington County in support of SB 542 which would require the original equipment manufacturer to make available to an owner or independent repair provider at fair and reasonable terms any of the following:

- Any necessary documentation, tool, part, or other device or implement for purpose of diagnosing, maintaining, repairing, or updating consumer electronic equipment sold in Oregon; or
- Any documentation, tool, or part necessary to disable and reset electronic security lock or function that is or must be disabled or reset while diagnosing, maintaining, or repairing the consumer electronic equipment

There are several reasons why having the ability to repair consumer electronic goods is important. First, consumer electronics have become increasingly difficult for consumers to diagnose issues with and repair. These products can have a very short shelf-life span when affordable repair options are not available. Through repair, consumers can extend the life of these products which will not only make electronics more reusable they will also be more available to a more diverse array of consumers.

Second, the right to repair encourages a more sustainable approach to materials management. E-waste is not going away; the waste stream is only growing. We are fortunate to have the Oregon e-cycles collection program which enables residents to recycle computers, monitors, printers' mice, and TVs but it does not address repairs. This bill has the potential to create innovation in an important sector of our economy.

This bill fits into Washington County's current legislative principles which include:

- Enhance local efforts to serve the diverse population of Washington County in an equitable and inclusive manner.
- Support legislation that balances economic interests and growth with a healthy environment.
- Approach policy solutions through the promotion of recognized best practices and collaborative problem solving.

For all these reasons, Washington County supports SB 542 and encourages you to support this innovative measure that is deeply responsive to what consumers want and need right now.

Thank you for your consideration.

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