

Submitter: Shari Harris-Dunning
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: SB542

Hello esteemed members of the Senate,

I am writing in support of SB 542 -- which essentially allows consumers who purchase electronics to be able to repair their equipment or to allow an independent repair provider to provide these services. The industry of repair, whether it be provided via an independent source or through the owner of the equipment, is a sensible, practical and makes good economic sense.

We live in a disposable society where items are constructed with planned obsolescence. While perhaps this ensures the production and consumption of goods, especially electronics, it is no longer a viable way to live. The production of electronic goods involves the extraction of precious metals; the extraction, production and disposal of these materials creates secondary toxic chemicals. The inability to be able to "repair our own stuff" means that "more stuff" is created, which adds to our disposal problems, pollution and creates economic hardship for those who simply cannot afford to just "buy another _____" (fill in the blank).

Electronic waste is one of the fastest growing waste streams in the world. We can no longer sit by and watch as these materials enter every point in the food chain and our environment. Allowing individuals or service providers to repair these goods makes sense from both an environmental and economic perspective. I thank you for supporting this important piece of legislation.

Shari Harris-Dunning