



February 14, 2023

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Re: SB 542 Right to Repair Legislation – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley & Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Recology, I am writing in support of SB 542, which would require companies and manufacturers to make diagnostic tools, replacement parts and tools available to repair electronic equipment to individuals and small businesses. As a 100% employee-owned company, Recology manages recycling, organic waste, and solid waste collection, processing, and disposal services for urban, suburban, and rural communities throughout Oregon. Recology supports measures that encourage reuse and reduce waste.

Due to modern product design, consumers are encouraged to discard their devices when something goes wrong, rather than fix them. We consistently see electronics delivered to the transfer stations we operate. These discarded electronics can be difficult to recycle, and contain potentially hazardous materials that could impact the environment. With the passage of this bill, many of those devices could be fixed instead of being disposed, diverting them from the waste stream and providing new life to a device, likely at a reduced price, increasing availability to low-income users. Making it easier to repair electronic devices will allow for more reuse of products before they eventually do make their way into the waste stream, lessening their overall impact on the environment and reducing the use of natural resources.

We look to find the highest and best use of all the material coming through our transfer stations. In many cases, this means preventing materials from getting there in the first place. E-waste is a growing share of the products we see being discarded. Should this bill pass, it would be easier to collect those devices and repair them for a new customer. We hope you will pass SB 542, to provide new opportunities to increase the availability of refurbished devices on a secondary market and keep products that can be useful again out of the garbage.

For these reasons, we are proud to support SB 542. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Garen Kazanjian
Public Policy Manager
Recology Inc.