



February 8, 2024

Chairwoman Sollman
Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
900 Court Se. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Eugene Support for SB 1596-Right to Repair

The City of Eugene supports SB 1596 as a step toward securing Oregonians' right to repair their electronic devices and aligns with Eugene's efforts to increase the accessibility of repair services for residents.

SB 1596 represents a step towards democratizing access to technology for all Oregonians. The bill's focus on extending the lifespan of electronic products supports businesses specializing in technology and electronics repair within our communities and protects a resident's ability to extend the lifespan and viability of an important purchase.

The bill also addresses the pressing issue of electronic waste, which poses significant challenges to waste management systems. Electronic products are a growing waste stream that contributes to fires in landfills and recycling centers and it's more important than ever for Oregon to prioritize repair as a sustainable solution. Although there are opportunities for electronics recycling, they do not address repair, a more sustainable alternative.

While SB 1596 may not address all barriers to digital inclusion and equity, the City of Eugene supports this bill due to its alignment with our broader objectives. By championing the rights of Oregonians to repair their electronic devices, SB 1596 aligns with Eugene's efforts to enhance repair accessibility for residents, support efforts to reduce e-waste associated with electronics, and enhance opportunities for local businesses to perform repairs on essential consumer technology.

Sincerely,

-submitted electronically-

Ethan Nelson
Intergovernmental Relations Manager