

February 8, 2024



Senator Janeen Sollman, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Lane County Government Supports SB 1596

Dear Chair Sollman and Members of the Committee:

Lane County strongly supports SB 1596 relating to a right to repair consumer electronics and appliances. SB 1596 builds on SB 542 from the 2023 session. The bill now before the Oregon state legislature is informed by what has passed recently in other states and addresses concerns by technology companies around antitrust and now has the support of Google.

While Oregonians can easily recycle electronics, repair and reuse has an even greater benefit to the environment by reducing pollution and conserving natural resources, supporting the states climate goals. Additionally, repair saves Oregon families money by enabling them to fix phones, tablets, computers and appliances instead of buying new.

Lane County and the City of Eugene promote repair and reuse through an online directory, education and programming through [Fix-iT Lane County](#) and [Fix-iT Events](#). Lane County is now home to over 30 small businesses and nonprofits that repair consumer electronics and appliances.

SB 1596, Right to Repair, gives consumers and small businesses/non-profits access to repair manuals, tools to repair (computers, tablets, cell phones, and appliances), improves privacy protections and increases interchangeable part capability. Through affordable access, SB 1596 expands opportunities to narrow the digital divide and improve access to information and technology for all Oregonians. In addition, SB 1596 promotes skill-building, job creation, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and toxic pollution.

SB 1596 is a win for Oregonians on many levels, which is why we urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angie R. Marzano".

Angie R. Marzano
Waste Reduction Program Supervisor