

Submitter: Mark Gibbs

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB550

My first venture into the professional world of technology was when I was a teenager working for a great guy named Shanon who owned a computer repair business in my small hometown. Shanon had been in a car wreck when he was young and it broke his neck, causing him to become partially paralyzed from the neck down and required him to be in a wheelchair. When I met him he drove a big white van with a mechanical wheelchair ramp and it was adapted to work with him in his wheelchair so that he could drive and function in his business. We drove around all day every day fixing computers, setting up networks, and doing tech things for customers all around. I saw his struggles with the wheelchair and the technology around it, from lack of part availability, to high costs and long wait time for any kind of repairs either to his wheelchair or to his van or other devices used to assist him on a daily basis.

All of this is to give you a peek into my perspective. Technology is something we all rely on daily, how much more so our brothers and sisters that use technology to just live, walk, breath, and survive? It is not logical to me to allow someone to fix their computer, or their cell phone, or their car, and not allow them to repair the technology that provides them a quality of life that most of us take for granted.

It would be a great blessing to those who require this technology to be able to get local, affordable, and fast help when it comes to repairing their technology. Businesses and non profits like mine would love to be able to offer those services and have the support of the original equipment manufactures. Allow us to help others by helping us get the parts, support, and information we need to help those who need it the most.

Thank you for your time and God bless!

Respectfully,

Mark Gibbs

President - BrainWave Tablet PC Corporation

Executive Director - MakerForce 501(c)(3)