

Dear House Committee on Judiciary,

We respectfully oppose SB 959 as written and urge you to remove the exemption to Oregon's right to repair law for alarm systems.

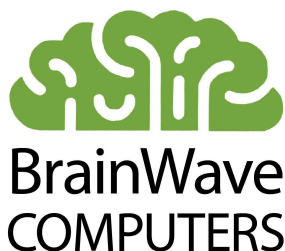
Oregon's Right to Repair law (SB 1596), passed last session, was intended to provide consumers with what they need to fix their own electronics and household products. Without the right to repair consumers are left to rely on manufacturer-authorized repair procedures which, given lack of competition, often end up creating a cost burden.

Based on feedback from stakeholders and lessons learned in other states, the law explicitly included an exemption to manufacturers having to disclose anything that would override security of a covered product. The law states that manufacturers are exempt from anything that would "Require an original equipment manufacturer to make available special documentation, tools, parts or other devices or implements that would disable or override, without an owner's authorization, anti-theft or privacy security measures that the owner sets for consumer electronic equipment."¹

Safety and security are the main two arguments raised by every industry that simply wants to be exempt from the requirement to make it easier for owners of their products to fix them themselves or have a third party do so without having to pay monopoly prices charged by the manufacturer. Oregon's Right to Repair law was vetted over several years and creating exemptions when there is no good reason to do so sets a bad precedent that could lead to further attempts to weaken it in the future.

Consumers and small businesses buy security cameras, electronic keypads and other security equipment. They deserve the right to fix that equipment when it breaks.

Sincerely,



¹ SB 1596, 2024, Section 1(3)(d):

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2024R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB1596/Enrolled>