

SB 542 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires original equipment manufacturer (Manufacturer) to make available to an owner or independent repair provider at fair and reasonable terms any of the following that Manufacturer makes available to authorized repair provider:

- any necessary documentation, tool, part, or other device or implement for purpose of diagnosing, maintaining, repairing, or updating consumer electronic equipment sold in Oregon; or
- any documentation, tool, or part necessary to disable and reset electronic security lock or function that is or must be disabled or reset while diagnosing, maintaining, or repairing the consumer electronic equipment.

Provides that person who suffers ascertainable loss of money or property has right to bring action to recover damages for violation of provisions of Act. Allows person to recover actual damages or statutory damages of \$1,000, whichever is greater, along with attorney fees and court costs. Allows court to punitive damages or may provide appropriate equitable relief. Allows class action. Stipulates requirement does not require a Manufacturer to disclose a trade secret; alter the terms of any agreement or arrangement between Manufacturer and an authorized repair provider; or impose liability upon Manufacturer. Stipulates provisions do not apply to person engaged in manufacturing new motor vehicles, or to certain other products. Applies to originated equipment sold or in use on or after the effective date. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

When certain home electronics are not functioning properly, the consumer may face the choice of replacing the product or paying for repair services of a business authorized by the original manufacturer to make the repair. Attempting to repair the product at home or through a service not authorized by the original manufacturer may void the warranty, and the tools and instructions necessary to make the repair may not be available.

Senate Bill 542 would require that original equipment manufacturer makes any documentation, tool, part or other device or implement that original equipment manufacturer makes available to authorized repair provider for purpose of diagnosing, maintaining or repairing consumer electronic equipment available to owner of consumer electronic equipment or independent repair provider on fair and reasonable terms.