

COURTNEY NERON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 26



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support of SB 542

February 9th, 2023

Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. For the record, I am State Representative Courtney Neron representing House District 26, and testifying in support of SB 542 today.

Just yesterday, our front door screen broke. I know that I can get a part at a hardware store and fix it without having to buy a whole new door. When the refrigerator fan went out last month, I was able to have a repair person change it out for a new one and we don't have another refrigerator in a landfill. These instances of repair not only save my family money, they reduce waste and keep local small businesses going. I believe we need the same ability to repair our electronics and refuse throw-away culture.

Many electronic manufacturers control the marketplace by limiting the tools, parts, and information available to make it harder for individuals and local repair shops to make simple fixes to electronic products. This practice not only forces consumers to buy new and expensive electronics but also results in significant electronic waste. In 2019 alone, the Oregon E-Cycles program found that over 18 million pounds of electronic devices were collected for recycling.¹

SB 542 gives consumers the right to access tools, parts, and information needed to repair their electronic products. This bill allows Oregonians to reduce e-waste, reuse devices, save money, and patron local repair shops. Ultimately, it will also support closing the digital divide by allowing product modifications. It is a common sense bill that supports the efficient use of energy and resources through product life extension.

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<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2022R1/Downloads/PublicTestimonyDocument/39291#:~:text=In%202019%20alone%2C%20more%20than,devices%20were%20collected%20for%20recycling.>

Thank you for your time and consideration, I urge your support in passing SB 542 from committee.

Sincerely,

Representative Courtney Neron

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Courtney Neron". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a long, sweeping underline.

Representative Courtney Neron

House District 26

Wilsonville, including the Charbonneau district, King City, Sherwood,
Tigard/Bull Mountain, and Parrett Mountain