



February 9, 2024

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Support for SB 1596, Right to Repair Bill

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Findley and members of the committee:

The Technology Association of Oregon (TAO) is the force behind the regional tech industry – supporting entrepreneurs, connecting peers and decision makers statewide, and helping establish the Northwest as a global hub for innovation. We work with over 500 tech and tech-enabled companies throughout Oregon, ranging in size from one-person startups to some of the largest tech companies in the world.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 1596, creating a reasonable right to repair program within Oregon.

TAO and its members are appreciative of the significant improvements made to the bill since its consideration in the 2023 Legislative Session, which include the removal of the private right of action and instead locating enforcement within the Office of the Attorney General. We are grateful for the time Sen. Sollman has spent on improving this legislation and responding to the concerns of our members. Senate Bill 1596 is a reasonable compromise that brings together tech companies, small repair companies, and legislators to find common ground for the repair movement. Passing SB 1596 will give a win to consumers who want affordable repair options and to companies that believe repairing their products should be simple and accessible.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share our support for SB 1596.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Skip Newberry".

Skip Newberry
President & CEO, Technology Association of Oregon