

February 8, 2024

Re: Support of Digital Right to Repair, SB 1596

To whom it may concern,

XS International, Inc. has been in business for (30) years servicing the Lifecycle of IT Requirement for over (40) Federal Agencies, (12) of the Top (15) Federal Prime Contractors and over (100) of Fortune 500 Companies.

XSi provides legacy systems, parts, repair, and maintenance to our clients for end-of-life equipment as old as 25 years old, which happens to include the Super Computers that run the US Missile Defense Program and the US MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction) Program. Also, we support 15-year-old computers used to fly Global Hawk Drones.

Just because IT Manufacturers declare equipment to be End-of-Life or End-of-Service in an attempt to force obsolescence to make new sales, does not mean that Federal Agencies, Prime Contractors and Business Entities need to stop using this equipment that obviously have a longer lifespan than the five years manufacturer's claim.

Right-to-Repair is critical to XSi to service legacy systems including those to defend the United States of America.

Besides, Manufacturers turn to XSi when they discontinue equipment, and we work with a few as a back-end subcontractor in these situations.

I am on (2) Global IT Industry Association Boards, including the ASCDI Association representing over 270 companies, of which I am a third-year Chairman of the Board and Service Industry Association, which represents over 110 companies of which I have been on the Board for five years. Right-to-Repair is critical to these companies and their tens-of-thousands of employees.

Facts that most politicians and their constituents may not understand in the IT industry is that Manufacturers of this equipment:

- 1. Also do Third Party Maintenance on their competitor's equipment, including IBM, HPE & Dell.
- 2. Outsource telephone technical assistance, logistics, and field engineering to partners not using W2 employees.
- 3. Have fewer quality management systems in place than Independent Repair Companies to combat counterfeit equipment.

Please feel free to contact me at 678-537-4108 or tbone@xsnet.com.

Sincerely,

Todd

