



TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Katie Fry Hester
The Honorable J.B. Jennings

FROM: Richard A. Tabuteau
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: March 11, 2020

RE: **OPPOSE** – Senate Bill 723 – *Consumer Protection – Right to Repair*

The Maryland Tech Council (MTC) is a collaborative community, actively engaged in building stronger life science and technology companies by supporting the efforts of our individual members who are saving and improving lives through innovation. We support our member companies who are driving innovation through advocacy, education, workforce development, cost savings programs, and connecting entrepreneurial minds. The valuable resources we provide to our members help them reach their full potential making Maryland a global leader in the life sciences and technology industries. On behalf of MTC, we submit this letter of **opposition** for Senate Bill 723.

Senate Bill 723 requires an original equipment manufacturer to, on fair and reasonable terms, make available to an independent repair provider (or owner) of digital electronic equipment (1) any documentation, parts, tools, or updates to information or embedded software or (2) as it applies to equipment that contains a security-related function, any documentation, tools, parts, or updates needed to reset the lock or function when disabled.

It is important to remember that a technology company's reputation, in part, is premised on the reliability of the product and consumer experience. This is why manufacturers provide service and repair options with the sale of their products, especially for those products with complicated features, configuration, and design. Brand/maker certified technicians are required to conduct such repairs to preserve reliability. Senate Bill 723 seems to create a "one size fits all" approach, which is not necessarily an appropriate avenue for all consumers and every repair of digital electronic equipment.

MTC urges the Senate Finance Committee to give Senate Bill 723 an unfavorable report.

For more information call:

Richard A. Tabuteau
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
410-244-7000