



Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition

**Testimony to the House Economic Matters Committee  
HB84-Consumer Protection - Right to Repair  
Position: Favorable**

January 27, 2021

The Honorable Dereck E. Davis, Chair  
House Economic Matters Committee  
Room 231, House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
cc: Members, House Economic Matters Committee

Honorable Chair Davis and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition (MCRC) is a statewide coalition of individuals and organizations that advances financial justice and economic inclusion for Maryland consumers through research, education, direct service, and advocacy. Our 8,500 supporters include consumer advocates, practitioners, and low-income and working families throughout Maryland.

We are writing today in support of HB84-Right to Repair.

HB84 will increase competition in the Maryland marketplace by making the critical diagnostic tools, manuals, and replacement parts available to an individual or a third party at a fair price. HB84 will upend the monopoly that some manufacturers hold on their items and instead, create opportunities for small businesses and individuals to repair these items.

As a result, consumers will no longer have to rely on a manufacturer to fix their items or sell them a newer, more expensive model. Instead, consumers can repair the item or take it to be repaired, saving money and often, time. The right to repair will also protect consumers from the practice of price-gouging by the manufacturer for replacement parts.

For all these reasons, we support HB84 and ask for a favorable report.

Best,

Marceline White  
Executive Director