

TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Commerce Committee

FROM: Aaron Riggleman, Manager, Government Affairs

DATE: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

RE: Oppose H.B. 2535 - Right-to-Repair

I write on behalf of the PA Chamber to urge opposition to H.B. 2535. We understand your committee may consider this bill today.

H.B. 2535 requires original equipment manufacturers of electronics and appliances that contain embedded software, such as cellphones, washers, dryers, refrigerators, televisions, and laptops, to make publicly available the information and parts needed to repair those devices and fully disclose any contract provision "standing in the way" of full repair and reuse.

While this policy may be well intended, it presents several significant concerns:

- **Proprietary Information Concerns:** Manufacturers spend considerable time and resources developing cutting edge software. Mandating that companies disclose this information could erode the protection of intellectual property, which is essential for maintaining a competitive edge.
- Safety and Liability Risks: Manufacturers carefully equip their repairpersons with rigorous training and certified standards to ensure safety. Unauthorized repair shops may lack the expertise and training to maintain those standards and conduct repairs safely, putting themselves and consumers at risk, and raising liability concerns.

For these reasons, we urge you to oppose H.B. 2535. Please contact Aaron Riggleman at <a href="mailto:ariggleman@pachamber.org">ariggleman@pachamber.org</a> or 724-640-3290 with questions or to discuss.