



February 11, 2025

Representative Joseph J. Solomon, Jr., Chair
House Committee on Corporations
Rhode Island General Assembly
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI
02903

RE: HB 5246 – Digital Electronics Right to Repair Act - Oppose

Chair Solomon and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed), AdvaMed Imaging, the Medical Device Manufacturers Association (MDMA), and RI Bio we write today to express our concerns with HB 5246 as it is introduced. AdvaMed has also reached out to all sponsors of this legislation. Our membership comprises the full spectrum of health technology innovators and manufacturers, who work every day to deliver high-quality healthcare for patients worldwide.

Patient safety is our membership's top priority, and this legislation unnecessarily exposes patients to an increased risk of harm or death. Often, unauthorized repair providers lack the necessary training to repair complex medical systems. Patients and consumers rely on a technology's accuracy to provide proper diagnosis and maintain safety standards.

Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) are subject to strict regulations by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to ensure patient safety. These regulations protect the safety and efficacy of medical devices and include registration with the FDA, implementation of quality and safety controls, proper training, and qualification of replacement parts. Independent third-party service providers are not held to the same standards. A 2018 report by the FDA found more than 4,300

adverse events – including 294 serious injuries and 40 deaths – from devices repaired by unauthorized third-party providers.

These complex issues are accounted for in federal legislation known as the Fair Repair Act – a right-to-repair bill that provides a full exemption for medical device manufacturers. Similar exemptions are provided in both New York and Minnesota’s laws, the only two broad right to repair laws that have been enacted in the U.S.

Safety and security are paramount to our members and the patients they serve. We appreciate your consideration of our concerns and are committed to working with you and the committee on this critical issue. Feel free to contact any of our organizations with additional questions. Thank you again, and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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