



February 11, 2025

Chair Joseph J. Solomon Jr.
House Corporations Committee
Rhode Island House of Representatives
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Solomon and members of the committee:

The Security Industry Association (SIA) is a non-profit trade association representing more than 1,500 innovative member companies providing safety and security solutions throughout the U.S. and thousands of safety and security leaders in Rhode Island.

We respectfully oppose House Bill 5246 as it currently stands because its scope is overly broad. We are concerned that if H 5246 becomes law, it could unintentionally compromise the safety of those who rely on electronic security and life safety systems. This legislation would compel virtually all original equipment manufacturers to provide sensitive information, including those essential to complex life safety and security systems which protect consumers and businesses from physical security threats and protect secure sensitive data.

Forcing manufacturers of such systems to disclose proprietary equipment and security information will expose consumers and small businesses to potential harm by allowing information necessary for disabling or circumventing these systems to make it into the public domain. We note that each of the states that have passed right to repair legislation that is broadly applicable to electronics have included such protections. It is imperative to understand that once this information is in the public domain due to a right to repair law in one state, that the integrity of security and life safety devices is compromised nationwide and even globally as these systems are not unique to Rhode Island. Such an outcome is clearly not in the public interest. It benefits no one for such information to become widely available, other than those who would seek to defeat, infiltrate, or alter such systems for criminal ends.

The adoption of House Bill 5246 without **clearly excluding security and life safety devices** would expose consumers of such devices to potential fraud and harm in the name of consumer protection. Such an exclusion should apply to a manufacturer, distributor, integrator or installer of security or life safety systems and equipment, including alarm systems and any other digital electronic equipment used to prevent, detect, protect against, or respond to fire or security incidents or control access to residential, commercial, and governmental property, services, or information systems. We reiterate the need to add appropriate exclusions for security and life safety systems, in order to protect the safety of consumers that would be vulnerable if information on how to disable such systems is made widely available and exploited by bad actors

Thank you for considering our perspective on this complex issue. On behalf of our members, we are committed to working with you and offer our assistance as industry leaders in any way possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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