



January 25, 2024

To: House Committee on Innovation, Internet and Technology

Re: **H7095 – Digital Electronics Right to Repair Act**

Position: **SUPPORT**

Dear Chairperson Baginski and Honorable Members of the Committee,

Clean Water Action Rhode Island proudly supports H7095 by Representative Kislak. This legislation will benefit the environment in Rhode Island by enabling consumers to repair various electronic devices which will, in turn, reduce electronic waste going to our landfill. **According to Rhode Island Resource Recovery's most recent (2015) waste characterization study, approximately 1,969 tons of small consumer electronic and electrical devices are buried in the central landfill each year.** Given the proliferation of digital electronic devices since 2015, this number has likely only increased since 2015, despite the best efforts of our cities and towns.

Electronics contain a mix of toxic materials and heavy metals that should not be landfilled, nor incinerated. Recycling of electronic waste is challenging, which makes initiatives that facilitate more reuse so important. Right to repair laws should be a part of any effective solid waste management strategy.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jed Thorp", written over a horizontal line.

Jed Thorp
Rhode Island State Director, Clean Water Action