

Dear Federal Trade Commissioners,

We write to express our support for the Right to Repair. While states have made progress on removing repair restrictions over the last few years, consumers still face barriers to repair and a lack of transparent repairability information before they make an expensive purchase.

Right to Repair has been gaining ground all across the country, and it's time for the FTC to stand up for repair rights. Easier repairs will make it simpler and cheaper for consumers to repair their phones, laptops, and tablets. It also helps the environment because more repair means less electronic waste.

Noting that the Commission voted unanimously in July of 2021 to “closely coordinate with state law enforcement and policymakers,” to combat repair restrictions, we are asking for the agency’s assistance in ensuring access to the parts, tools, and information needed to repair and in creating better transparency for potential customers seeking to understand the repairability of products at the point of sale.

When we own something, we should be able to do what you want with it, including fix it when it breaks. For too long makers of phones, laptops, and tablets have restricted repair—making it harder and more expensive to fix our stuff. Restricting repair hurts consumers’ wallets, the environment, and is downright un-American.

Sincerely,

Robert Herrell, Executive Director, Consumer Federation of California

Ruth Susswein, Director of Consumer Protection, Consumer Action

Jamie Court, President, Consumer Watchdog

Tracy Rosenberg, Executive Director, Media Alliance

Ted Mermin, Executive Director, Public Good Law Center

Susan Weinstock, CEO, Consumer Federation of America