



125 Charles Avenue
St Paul, MN 55103
(651) 224-3344

swaa-mn.org

February 1, 2022

Representative Stephenson

Chair, House Commerce Finance and Policy Committee

St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Stephenson and members of the committee,

The Solid Waste Administrators Association (SWAA) is submitting this letter in support of HF1156: Digital Fair Repair, also known as digital right to repair. SWAA has over 100 member counties, solid waste management districts, and affiliate members around the state and is an affiliate organization of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC). SWAA members manage electronic “wastes” through collecting, dismantling and transporting the electronic devices to recyclers for further processing. In most cases the majority of the costs of these operations are either paid for by county taxpayers or fees charged at the facilities.

The highest and best way to manage waste is to prevent waste from being created. HF1156 does this by enabling the owners of electronic devices to have their device repaired, or if that is not possible due to the damage, salvaging parts for repairs of other devices. The ability to repair electronic devices will reduce the amount of electronic waste and prevent recycling and disposal costs from falling on local taxpayers.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter and we look forward to the passage of Digital Fair Repair.

Respectfully,

John I. Helmers

Executive Director