iFIXIT

Dear **Chair Stephenson, Vice Chair Kotyza-Witthuhn and members of the Committee**,

I'm writing to express the support of iFixit for **HF 1156**, the Right to Repair bill.

iFixit is an international, open-source, online repair manual for everything. Our mission is to provide people with the knowledge they need to make their things work for as long as possible.

We represent a global community of makers, tinkerers, fixers, and repair professionals. In 2021, the iFixit community taught repair to over 75 million people from almost every country in the world. The strongly collaborative group has published over 75,000 repair guides. This massive, free resource has helped people fix everything from cellphones and game consoles, tractors and musical instruments. iFixit stands firm in its support of the tinkerers and independent repair professionals in our community. We believe that owners should have the right to repair, modify, and tinker with the things that they own.

Manufacturers are increasingly preventing users from repairing or modifying the products they have bought, from tractors to printers to laptops. They are invoking vague 'intellectual property' and security concerns to justify and protect these anti-consumer behaviors. But consumers need access to parts and service documentation for the complex electronic equipment they own.

"Software is eating the world"

Over the last two decades, we've gone from a world where software is rarely seen outside of a general-purpose computer, to a world where billions of microprocessors are embedded every year in virtually every type of device. Essentially all categories of manufactured products now contain software that is central to the functionality of the product, from lightbulbs to toothbrushes. As a result, software has also become central to the repair of devices. iFixit's ability to help people repair their own products has hit walls set up by manufacturers.

Don't let broken be the end.

For our members, and **Minnesota** consumers more generally, the problems of being unable to repair their own products are vast and will continue to grow. Without access to service diagnostics, products will simply stop working as cloud services are deprecated and network services change. Without access to repair parts, consumers will have to replace perfectly repairable products. And without service information, the vast diversity of products on the market will overwhelm repair shops and recyclers.

HF 1156 will set us up for a better future, restoring consumer's ability to maintain their own products and creating local green jobs.

Sincerely,

Kyle Wiens
iFixit CEO