



MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

S4104 (Breslin) / A7006 (Fahy)

An act to the general business law, in relation to the sale of digital electronic equipment and providing diagnostic and repair information

The New York Library Association supports the above referenced legislation and urges members to vote in its favor.

If enacted, this bill would require Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to make diagnostic and repair information, parts and tools for digital electronic devices available to independent repair providers and consumers. In addition, manufacturers would be required to honor warranties in the event non-OEM parts or maintenance was provided by an unauthorized service technician.

Each year, libraries across the state provide electronic equipment or access to technological goods to their community members. The demand for equipment such as e-notebooks, laptops, hotspots and, audiobook player, has dramatically increased over recent years. As circulation has increased, so have the need for repairs. Unfortunately, when a device breaks or malfunctions, the library or system would remove the device from circulation and seek repair. Due to current restrictions, libraries would be forced to wait for an OEM to fix the product which could cause a multiple week lag in available service to their patrons.

If implemented, the Fair Repair Act would allow libraries to identify a local service representative who could return the product in a shorter-time frame and/or at a lesser cost. For patrons who frequent their library, this means access to their desired content and information.

For additional information, please contact Briana McNamee at the New York Library Association at 518.432.6952.