



SUPPORT

A. 7416/S. 6309 (Lupardo/Breslin)

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to the sale of digital electronic equipment diagnostic and repair information.

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports A. 7416/S. 6309 (Lupardo/Breslin), which would allow owners of devices that depend for their functioning on digital electronics the ability to repair their own devices or bring their devices to independent repair shops, rather than manufacturers being the sole party able to repair the devices.

As technology advances and evermore consumer products come with electronic components and mandatory software packages, devices with digital electronic components make up a larger share of the waste stream. According to a report issued by the Public Interest Research Group, New York residents throw out over 23,000 phones a day. While electronic waste is a particular problem because it persists in landfills for so long and often contains toxic material, there is a broader issue with consumer products having short lifetimes, sometimes by design, and driving both carbon emissions and an unsustainable waste system. Creating a more sustainable waste system requires many tools, but one of the easiest steps New York can take is to allow consumers to repair their own devices when the original manufacturer no longer offers repair services or only offers them at unaffordable prices.

A. 7416/S. 6309 would decrease the amount of waste that goes to landfills and increase consumer reuse or resale of fixable devices that may otherwise be disposed of by giving the owners of these products the option to fix the devices by themselves or bring them to independent repair shops who may offer a lower price than the manufacturer. This would help New York reach a long-term goal of sending zero waste to landfills.

For these reasons, the New York League of Conservation Voters urges passage of A. 7416/S. 6309.

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