

John Keane
Legislative & Regulatory Specialist
202.872.5955
jkeane@aham.org



1111 19th Street NW > Suite 402 > Washington, DC 20036
t 202.872.5955 f 202.872.9354 www.aham.org

Keep Appliance Repairs Safe & Secure

OPPOSE “Right to Repair” Legislation (HB 84)

AHAM represents manufacturers of major, portable and floor care home appliances, and suppliers to the industry. AHAM’s membership includes over 150 companies throughout the world. In the U.S., AHAM members employ tens of thousands of people and produce more than 95% of the household appliances shipped for sale. The factory shipment value of these products is more than \$30 billion annually.

AHAM’s members have facilities in Maryland:

Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.

GE Appliances

Philips Electronics

So-called “Right to Repair” legislation (HB 84) would make it challenging for appliance manufacturers to ensure their products are being repaired safely by qualified, trained repair technicians. Home appliances are subject to regulations and codes for installation, handling and service processes. This includes electrical codes, building codes, plumbing codes, and ozone-depleting substances and radiation emitting devices regulations. In fact, the National Electric Code and State require the certification of most home appliances under applicable North American safety standards. By requiring manufacturers to release sensitive, often proprietary repair-related information to all service providers—not just those authorized or certified to service the products—the bill potentially creates safety risks for consumers and threaten electronic security in the case of connected products. Major appliances are repaired in the home. This is an important point to remember when considering legislative proposals that would allow anyone with a business license to enter a house and potentially gain access to the family’s Internet through the connected features of products.

AHAM urges opposition to this legislation to ensure that consumers can rest easy knowing their appliances are being repaired in their homes safely and securely by properly trained repair professionals.

The home appliance industry, through its products and innovation, is essential to improving a person’s lifestyle and health, and saving people time. Through its technology, employees, and productivity, the industry contributes significantly to U.S. jobs and economic security. Home appliances also are a success story in terms of energy efficiency and environmental protection. New appliances often represent the most effective choice a consumer can make to reduce home energy use and costs.