February 27, 2020

Sen. James Maroney, Chair  
Rep. Michael D’Agostino, Chair  
Joint Committee on General Law  
Legislative Office Building, Room 3500  
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: SB 136- Motor Vehicle and Small Business Right to Repair

Dear Chairs Maroney and D’Agostino and members of the Committee:

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of over 80 technology companies that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50 state level. TechNet’s diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents more than three million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, clean energy, gig and sharing economy, venture capital, and finance. TechNet is committed to advancing the public policies and private sector initiatives that make the U.S. the most innovative country in the world.

TechNet respectfully submits comments in opposition to SB 136. This bill would impose unnecessary and potentially harmful requirements on vehicle-generated data, negatively impacting Connecticut’s consumer and technology industry. Additionally, passing SB 136 would conflict with the 2014 Memorandum of Understanding and Right to Repair Agreement executed by the Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association, Coalition for Auto Repair Equality, Alliance for Automobile Manufacturers, and the Association of Global Automakers which covers all 50 states and DC.

Consumers today have more vehicle information and more control over that information than ever before. However, these bills would allow for unfettered access to data and such exposure will result in security vulnerabilities that could endanger the public. The more third parties that have access to data, the more likely it is to be misused or stolen. This proposal would allow third parties to access very detailed information, including how, when, and where a person drives. As such, TechNet and its member companies strongly encourage the Committee to not advance this legislation.

Innovation and investment by automakers and technology companies has made vehicles safer and greatly enhanced the driver experience. Connecticut must remain a leader in vehicle technology and safety and not advance this legislation. Thank you in advance for your
consideration on these matters and we hope to be a resource as the Committee deliberates. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

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