<u>119th Congress</u>

House Armed Services Committee Member Day

Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez

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Thank you, Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Smith, for the opportunity to testify today.

Our military readiness and the safety of our servicemembers is dependent on warfighting equipment being reliable and quickly repairable. When military technicians are spending time on hold with manufacturers, shipping equipment overseas for simple fixes, or flying out authorized contractors – it's not only time-consuming and costly – but they're being deprived of experience working with their hands to fix equipment they rely on.

That's why I introduced the Servicemember Right-to-Repair Act to require manufacturers to provide the Defense Department with fair and reasonable access to repair materials.

Last month, the Trump Administration announced that the Army would be prioritizing right to repair provisions in its contracts. This is welcome news and I hope other branches of the Armed Forces follow suit.

It's my hope that the committee can build on this bipartisan momentum in this year's National Defense Authorization Act by including my Servicemember Right-to-Repair Act in base text. By prioritizing repair in defense contracts, we can save our hard-earned tax dollars, strengthen military readiness, and respect the skill of our servicemembers.

I thank you again for the opportunity to testify and look forward to working with the committee on this issue.