

I RIGHT TO REPAIR H341 - S166

We need to fix our stuff

When only the manufacturer or their “authorized technician” can fix something, they can charge whatever they want or they can say “it can’t be fixed” and push you into buying a new device.

Manufacturers’ repair restrictions affect a wide variety of products from cell phones, computers and appliances to medical devices and hospital equipment, to farm equipment and boats.

Repairing the digital divide

Early in the pandemic, a [nationwide laptop shortage](#) left millions of students unprepared for virtual learning. Due to disruptions in the supply chain, school districts in Massachusetts experienced [delays](#) before receiving their laptop orders.

Right to Repair will give schools and other institutions the information they need to maintain equipment, and empower the refurbished computer market, saving taxpayer dollars and improving digital access for Massachusetts families.



Access to cost-effectiveness devices is a critical part of the digital divide. Right to Repair expands low-cost secondary repair markets.

**ELECTRONICS REPAIR
COULD SAVE MASSACHUSETTS**

\$875 MILLION

PER YEAR



Repair saves families money

Our research finds that repair can save Massachusetts households about \$330 per year, leaving more money in consumer pockets. And with stronger repair rights, this money spent on repair will circulate in the US economy rather than stimulate factory jobs overseas.

Ensuring repair rights also:

- Prevents price-gouging from manufacturers for replacement parts.
- Gives consumers more options, and fosters a more competitive marketplace.

RIGHT TO REPAIR

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Rep. Cronin, Sen. Brady

Require equipment manufacturers to provide “fair and reasonable” access to replacement parts, tools, schematics or repair manuals, and diagnostic software

The policy is based on our existing, effective agreement between car manufacturers and independent repair shops.

This policy does not infringe on copyright, intellectual property, or warranty protection.

No monopoly on safety

Manufacturers have built their repair tools, parts, and diagnostics to be used by minimally trained technicians in order to control labor costs. These same parts, tools, and diagnostics can be used with equal outcomes by any trained technician. There is no empirical support for the idea that manufacturer repair is safer than any of their competitors.

Supporting farmers

Massachusetts farmers deserve protection from price gouging and consumer ripoffs. We need our farmers to be resilient and not dependent on manufacturers to ensure their equipment works.

Farm equipment manufacturers use repair restrictions to prevent [farmers from making necessary repairs](#). Repairs from authorized technicians can be costly and time consuming, which means tractors and crops lie fallow.



Farmers can experience delays in harvesting crops due to software errors that only authorized technicians can fix.

Stronger cybersecurity

Cybersecurity experts at Harvard's Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society have testified that Right to Repair reforms increase cybersecurity, a position echoed by leading industry experts which have formed the group SecuRepairs.

In restricting access to the materials consumers need to fix their devices, manufacturers prevent them from carrying out necessary maintenance. This creates a [lapse in security](#), and an opportunity for malicious actors to attack.

E-waste in Massachusetts



Toxic electronic waste is being thrown into our landfills, hurting the environment and our communities.

Reducing toxic e-waste

E-waste is the [fastest growing waste stream](#) in the world, and it adds toxic heavy metals like [lead, mercury, and cadmium](#) into our landfills.

Massachusetts households produce [233,000 tons](#) of electronic waste per year. With more repair, these materials will remain in use instead of filling up landfills, be more useful for recyclers, and reduce the burden of new source material, manufacturing, and transportation of new devices.