

Summary of HR 1566 The Right to Equitable and Professional Auto Industry Repair (REPAIR) Act

The REPAIR Act ensures vehicle owners, independent repair shops, and aftermarket manufacturers have secure access to vehicle repair and maintenance data which is critical to the independent aftermarket industry's ability to provide safe, dependable, and affordable repairs for Americans. As vehicle technology becomes more complex, safely repairing and maintaining them requires access to data, software, compatible replacement components, training, and sophisticated diagnostic tools.

Vehicle owner and independent shop access to vehicle repair data is increasingly at risk as vehicle manufacturers tighten control over its availability. Gone are the days of plugging into the steering column of the vehicle to receive vehicle data. Today, vehicle manufacturers collect terabytes of data, including this critical repair and maintenance data, from vehicles wirelessly and store it in their cloud servers, where they then control who has access to it and under what conditions. These potentially anticompetitive practices leave independent repairers unable to service vehicles and prevent aftermarket suppliers from offering high-quality, safe, and affordable replacement parts to consumers.

The REPAIR Act guarantees the rights of owners and their designated repair facilities to maintain and repair their vehicles while maintaining the same cybersecurity standards, intellectual property protections, and vehicle safety standards that the manufacturers use with their dealerships. Specifically, the Act:

- **Preserves Consumer Choice** – The bill ensures that vehicle owners will continue to have choice when it comes to repair and maintenance.
- **Provides Access to Repair Information and Tools** – The bill ensures:
 - **Parity in Repair and Maintenance Data:** Vehicle manufacturers must provide vehicle owners and their designees with access to all repair and maintenance data — including data transmitted wirelessly to manufacturer servers — on parity with manufacturers, their authorized dealers, and other third parties.
 - **Access to Critical Repair Information and Tools:** Vehicle manufacturers are required to make all critical repair information and tools needed to repair vehicles available to the independent repair industry, ensuring fair access comparable to what is provided to manufacturers, their authorized dealers, and other third parties.
- **Ensures Cybersecurity** – The bill expressly states that vehicle manufacturers may maintain effective cybersecurity measures.
- **Promotes Transparency** – The bill requires vehicle manufacturers and dealers to inform vehicle owners of their rights under the REPAIR Act at the point of purchase of a motor vehicle.
- **Guarantees Privacy** – The bill ensures vehicle owners can easily change or revoke a data designee, and that data is deleted after such revocation.

- **Recognizes Protections for Intellectual Property and Trade Secrets** – The bill explicitly upholds existing laws to ensure that intellectual property and trade secrets remain protected.
- **Establishes Enforcement** – The bill sets forth a meaningful enforcement process for violations to protect vehicle owners.
- **Requires a Report to Congress** – The bill requires the FTC to submit a biennial report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House Committee on Energy & Commerce summarizing actions taken pursuant to the legislation.

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