

Right to Professional Auto Industry Repair Act (REPAIR Act)

H.R. 906, the Right to Professional Auto Industry Repair Act (REPAIR Act), would provide enthusiasts, repair shops, and aftermarket market manufacturers of replacement parts access to the information and tools needed to maintain motor vehicles as technology evolves.

Rep. Neal Dunn (R-FL) is the lead sponsor of the REPAIR Act. This bipartisan legislation has 52 cosponsors, including 26 Republicans and 26 Democrats. The bill passed the House Innovation, Data, and Commerce Subcommittee on November 2, 2023.

Key Provisions

- Prohibits vehicle manufacturers from imposing technological or legal barriers that block aftermarket replacement part manufacturers from accessing critical information and tools necessary to develop interoperable products with emerging vehicle technology.
- Establishes the right for replacement part manufacturers and independent repair shops to access critical information tools and equipment needed to maintain vehicles.
- Requires companies producing vehicles equipped with telematics to make any repair information and tools available to replacement part manufacturers and repair facilities at a fair and reasonable cost.
- Provides vehicle owners with data and information wirelessly generated by their vehicles.
- Establishes a right for vehicle owners to securely share their vehicle's repair and maintenance data with their repairer of choice.
- Requires the Federal Trade Commission to establish an advisory committee to recommend implementing this bill and assess and report on existing and emerging barriers to vehicle repair and vehicle owners' control over their vehicle-generated data. The bill provides authority for the commission to enforce these requirements.

Why the REPAIR Act is Important

New barriers to working on your own vehicle, independent automotive repair, and manufacturing replacement/modification parts are emerging as vehicle technology evolves. Independent repair shops, aftermarket businesses, and automobile enthusiasts must have access to the tools and information necessary to repair and service motor vehicles now and in the future.

Direct access to vehicle data is under threat by vehicle manufacturers. Most new vehicles transmit data wirelessly (known as telematics) to the vehicle manufacturer. Vehicle owners cannot access this data and information for their vehicles, which is critical to serving the vehicle. Over 50% of cars will have these connected capabilities; by 2030, about 95% of new vehicles sold globally will have this connection (McKinsey).

Vehicle technology is advancing quickly, and Congress must protect the rights of millions of Americans to repair and modify their vehicles. If enacted into law, the REPAIR Act will ensure consumers can choose where and with what parts their vehicles are repaired.

The REPAIR Act must also protect the right to modify vehicles:

- The REPAIR Act must ensure businesses that manufacture and install parts that modify, customize, and upgrade motor vehicles have access to data, tools, and software.
- Over 8 million automotive enthusiasts in the U.S. are passionate about personalizing and modifying their vehicles.
- The specialty automotive aftermarket industry is a \$53 billion-a-year industry and employs over 1.3 million people.
- 85% of Americans agree that **you have a right to modify and customize** your vehicle, and all licensed repair shops should have access to the necessary codes.