

## **Senate Committee on Judiciary**

H.385- An act relating to remedies and protections for victims of coerced debt

Status- Read first time and referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

Looking through the Committees schedule since the bill was referred, there has been no official discussion within the committee yet.

## **Colorado “Right to Repair” Bills**

HB22-1031:

Status: Enacted (2022).

This is the first industry-wide initiative that requires wheelchair manufacturers to provide owners and independent repair technicians with the parts and software they need to repair their products.

Challengers during the legislative process of this bill argued that allowing consumers to repair motorized wheelchairs independently of OEM may affect the FDA approval of the wheelchair. They argue that there is a difference between “servicing” and “remanufacturing”. Remanufacturing, they argue, could include modifications that render the wheelchair no longer safe or in compliance with FDA guidelines.

HB23-1011:

### **Consumer Right to Repair Agricultural Equipment Act**

**Enacted: April 25, 2023**

Requires agricultural equipment manufacturers to provide farmers and independent repair shops with the same resources used by authorized dealers for equipment maintenance and repair.

Prohibits modification to evade emissions law or to disable safety equipment.

Worked off the success of HB22-1031. First in the Nation to target Agricultural Equipment. Includes a clause to repeal if there is ever a Federal Bill passed that has the same protections.

HB24-1121:

### **Consumer Right to Repair Digital Electronic Equipment**

Status: Enacted (Took effect January 1, 2026).

This bill DOES NOT, include medical devices. In fact, it explicitly exempts them. The argument made was that medical devices, such as ventilators, all the way to complex surgical robots are simply too complicated to leave to independent repair. Lobbyists argue that allowing such repairs would hinder FDA compliance and jeopardize patient safety.

Other exemptions include:

- Motor vehicles (already covered by a separate national memorandum of understanding).
- Video game consoles (due to concerns about piracy and "jailbreaking").
- Construction and road-building equipment.
- Off-road/marine equipment (boats, jet skis).
- Emergency radios and certain fire alarm system components.

## Legal Status:

Two trade groups that represent tech companies, NetChoice and TechNet, say proposed "Right to Repair" bills across the country would amount to an unconstitutional "taking" of private property in violation of the Fifth Amendment. However, there is no official legal action yet taken. This is because the optics of many of these companies challenging "right to repair" is often more costly than simply complying.

As of now, there are no concrete legal challenges to these sets of Colorado laws. A case, *NetChoice v. Weiser* (2025), successfully challenged Colorado's law that required warning labels for minor users of social media. Legal challenges such as this formulate a framework in which interest groups could target this law in the future.

Most companies choose to comply to avoid suits from the Colorado Attorney General. This compliance, however, is minimalistic in nature. Firstly, the law requires that companies provide parts at “fair and reasonable” terms. But many companies will offer parts at prices that encourage the consumer to simply buy a new product.

Additionally, some programs still require consumers to validate parts to gain full functionality (Such as Displays on phones). Producers of electronic devices have increasingly designed products to be less repairable. Even if a “right to repair” law is passed, companies can simply design products to be unrepairable. If a battery is glued to a phone, or a component is soldered to the motherboard, it reduces the reparability. These tactics increase the price of parts to fix a problem by requiring more parts for an otherwise simple repair. If a battery is glued, you now must buy the battery and the glue. If a Solid-State Drive is soldered to the motherboard, you either must have the skills to remove and replace it or buy a whole new motherboard. Both examples will tend to lead to a consumer culture that encourages buying a new device.

These practices are still legal under the Colorado law. This law targets access to parts and manuals. So, while you now have access to the proprietary screwdriver used in the factory to make a repair, further deliberate complications to third party repair can be made(adhesive, soldering, etc.).