

**Audio cuts and cues with the story:** [**Colorado passes first right-to-repair law; others could follow**](https://www.uaex.uada.edu/media-resources/news/2023/may/05-02-2023-ark-nalc-right-to-repair.aspx)

**Q:  What happened in Colorado and why is that significant to farming?**

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Colorado just enacted the first right-to-repair legislation that affects agricultural equipment so that's kind of the big take away we've had a memorandum that was entered into by John Deere company with American Farm Bureau Federation but this is the first time that we've actually got like enforceable statute if they violate the law consequences can flow from it.

**Q: Are there similar pieces of legislation pending in other states?**

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There’s been quite a few of these bills floating around now for a number of years. None of them have passed or if they have passed they've been redacted. So there's usually several issues that are all popping up right to repair for farm equipment is one of them, but also for electronics such as computers, smartphones, things like that, and also motorized wheelchairs so like this particular Colorado law affects agricultural equipment and motorized wheelchairs. So people have the right to fix their own.

**Q: What makes Colorado’s law so significant?**

**Download:** [**Rumley Cut 3**](https://app.box.com/s/ms8fsw4a5sihz4n5snsxzfs5he7tgupz)

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There’s been very little success at getting these types of statutes enacted.

**Q: Is there litigation pending that could be a game-changer?**

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One of the questions I got is kind of on the trademark issues and the copyright — like how much of the computer code are they going to say they can't release because competitors could take it and use it themselves. So I mean they might try to try to say a lot of stuff should be protected by trade secrets, so there may be some litigation on aspects like that. But for a lot of these companies the repair side of the industry is very has been a really important economic driver it's not just selling the new tractor or swather or combine it's also doing the repair work on it.”

**Q: What happens next?**
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It’s going to be really interesting to see how this goes forward from here. I mean if they're going to make you know service manuals and things like that available to Colorado repair shops, they're going to be getting out to other places too. So I mean this is kind of that that first chink in the armor. So, it's going to be interesting to see how this goes forward — do we see a national one like in the Colorado bill specifically says, ‘hey, if Congress ever passes a national right-to-repair act, Colorado one goes away and we'll all live with whatever the federal one is.

I don't think we're close to a federal one yet, but I mean, this is, this is kind of the the very first state fall. I think I checked and there was there's like 50 some pieces of legislation floating out there amongst the states with right-to-repair, so that's some combination of software, motorized wheelchairs and ag equipment. There's a lot of push out there but so far. I mean this kind the first big one to get passed, at least on the ag side.