



Maryland Farm Bureau

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March 10, 2026

To: House Economic Matters Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

RE: **Informational HB1429 Consumer Protection - Right to Repair - Motor Vehicles and Farm Equipment**

On behalf of the over 7,000 member families of the Maryland Farm Bureau, we write to express our support for HB1429 Consumer Protection - Right to Repair - Motor Vehicles and Farm Equipment. This bill requires an original farm equipment manufacturer to make available certain documentation, updates, or information to an independent repair provider or owner of farm equipment to allow for the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of the farm equipment.

The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) worked with manufacturers to find a private-sector solution to the right to repair issue. AFBF successfully negotiated memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with several major agricultural equipment manufacturers. The MOUs between AFBF and leading manufacturers give farmers access to error codes, specialty tools and information on how to fix the problem, while protecting companies' intellectual property rights. Farmers and independent repair facilities can also directly purchase diagnostic tools from the manufacturers at a reasonable price, which enables them to repair equipment on or near the farm. AFBF and the manufacturers will meet regularly to review the agreement and address concerns. Through AFBF's efforts, approximately three quarters of the agricultural machinery sold in the United States is now covered under right to repair MOUs. The MOUs have the potential to serve as a model for even more manufacturers in the future.

The Maryland Farm Bureau believes that the efforts of AFBF along with the manufacturers who have agreed to the MOU has helped lead to solutions with the right to repair issues.

Companies That Have Signed MOUs: AGCO, CLAAS of America, CNH Industrial (which includes Case IH and New Holland), John Deere, and Kubota.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Hough', with a horizontal line above it.

Tyler Hough
Director of Government Relations

Please reach out to Tyler Hough, though@marylandfb.org, with any questions