

August 22, 2023

## Support Right to Repair, Pass HB 4673

Dear lawmakers,

**We, the undersigned, strongly urge the Michigan Legislature to support HB 4673, sponsored by Rep. Reggie Miller. HB 4673, the Agricultural Equipment Repair Act, also known as Right to Repair, will save Michigan's farmers both time and money when it comes to repairing their farm equipment.**

Michigan agriculture is integral to our state's economy, contributing [more than \\$104.7 billion annually](#). Farmers are at the frontlines of delivering us the quality, fresh products that Michiganders proudly enjoy and use to feed themselves and their families. But right now, farmers and ranchers might have to travel over a hundred miles just to get a tractor or combine repaired at an authorized repair center. This is an unfair reality that is all too common across rural farming communities, and the legislature must address this critical need for Right to Repair.

HB 4673 will allow farmers and ranchers, not corporations, to choose who repairs the equipment they own. Colorado [recently became](#) the first state in the country to enact Right to Repair legislation for agricultural equipment, and similar bills were proposed in at least 16 states across the country. **As the second-most agriculturally diverse state in the country, Michigan should join their ranks and pass this common sense reform to give farmers more options and flexibility when it comes to repairing their equipment.**

Right to Repair is an issue of economic fairness for farmers and their communities, and too often they are left behind. Consolidation in American agriculture means that farmers have fewer, more costly options when it comes to repairing farm equipment, at a time when farmers are already struggling to make ends meet. Independent repair shops that exist in local communities can't get business because they can't access the tools, parts, and diagnostics for repairs. By passing Right to Repair, farmers can get their equipment serviced at independent shops in their own communities, or fix them themselves, saving them both time and hard-earned money.

**As strong advocates for Michigan-grown agriculture, we believe that wealthy corporations should stop gouging farmers and the communities those farmers grow food for, and Right to Repair would directly address this concern. We urge the legislature to pass HB 4673 swiftly and ensure the needs of our independent farmers are fully met.**

Thank you for your consideration.

**Organizations**

Center for Change: a Northern Michigan Advocacy Group  
Climate Stuff - UP  
Deeply Rooted Enterprises LLC  
Farm Action Fund  
Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities  
Growing Hope  
HEAL Food Alliance  
Institute for Local Self-Reliance  
Michigan Climate Action Network  
Michigan Farmers Union  
Michigan Food and Farming Systems  
Michigan League of Conservation Voters  
Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance  
Michigan Sustainable Business Forum  
Michigan United  
Michigan Voices  
Michiganders for a Just Farming System  
Northeast Michigan Council of Governments  
Progress Michigan  
Shiawassee County Democratic Party  
Sierra Club Michigan  
State Innovation Exchange  
Statewide Indivisible Michigan

**Farmers and individuals**

Alan Connor, Hillsdale County  
Bob Thompson, Isabella County  
Clyde Taylor, Isabella County  
Elaine Cable, Clinton County  
Laurel Wong, Garden Teacher, Fair Food Matters manager  
Michelle Deatrack, Walnut Ridge Farm, Washtenaw County  
Paul Gross, Isabella County  
The Stevens' Family Farm, Midland County