

## Right to repair

What is right to repair?

Many companies are claiming copyright concerns when it comes to selling parts for their technology. The largest example of this could be seen in the farming industry. Farmers use tractors to work their farm and when they would break down they would be able to buy parts and fix it themselves. In the past decade farming equipment has become much more technologically advanced and that is posing a positive and a negative for farmers. The positive is that they are able to work smarter not harder, however, they have been running into costly repair issues. Many of these farmers could no longer purchase parts to repair their equipment. These parts are owned by the company and the company requires a licensed technician to replace or repair any parts. The problem is that the labor costs are extremely high and the waiting time could be long. If a tractor breaks down on a Friday they may have to wait until Monday to get it repaired. This puts the farmers in a bad position because they lose a weekend of work especially if they have to harvest that weekend they still have to pay the people that help them. Farmers have been fighting these tech companies to allow the right to repair which will enable them to purchase parts and repair their equipment on their own.

In New York they just passed the first right to repair law in 2022. prior to this law being passed if you broke your iPhone screen you would be forced to go to an Apple store to have it fixed. The cost to repair the screens exorbitant and there was nothing that you could do about it now that New York has passed the right to repair law you can go to any repair store and have them fix it for a much lower cost or you can purchase the supplies online from a retailer and complete the repair on your own. The iPhone is just one example of technology that we use everyday that is very costly to repair. Another example are 3D printers that are used in educational settings. Many times when schools purchase this equipment they come with a limited warranty and when that warranty expires the school is responsible to pay for the repairs. As we all know, especially in New York City budgets do not normally allow for unexpected repairs. There is also the wait time for a technician to show up to

school to evaluate what is required in order for the part to come back and repair the printer. It seems only obvious for schools to be able to purchase parts and have access to Manuel's that can guide them to repair the items.