



Representative Adam Mathews
56th House District

House Technology & Innovation Committee
Sponsor Testimony – H.B. 301
June 10, 2025

Chair Claggett, Vice Chair Workman, Ranking Member Mohamed, and all honorable members of the House Technology and Innovation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on House Bill 301, a bill to bring digital Right to Repair to Ohio.

House Bill 301, which is a companion to Senator Blessing’s Senate Bill 176, requires manufacturers of certain digital electronic equipment including cell phones and laptops to provide the documentation, tools, and parts necessary for owners or repair providers to maintain and repair the equipment. The bill requires such documentation, tools, and parts be made available at either no cost to owners or repair providers or at the actual cost of preparation and sending.

Right to Repair legislation, based on the premise that individuals who purchase a product should fully own and be able to independently maintain it, is both pro-business and pro-consumer. Right to Repair legislation serves to uphold the dignity of private property ownership, contrary to “throwaway” or “life by subscription” mentalities that deprioritize private ownership, rob Ohioans of the technical abilities necessary to understand their products, and afford less individual agency over one’s property.

Modelled after New York’s Digital Fair Repair Act, which garnered significant bipartisan support, House Bill 301 applies solely to digital equipment and excludes motor vehicles, aircraft, and construction or agricultural equipment. Furthermore, the bill is carefully crafted to confer commonsense protections on the manufacturers, including specifications that manufacturers would not be required to divulge trade secrets beyond the limit of what is necessary to facilitate independent repairs and that manufacturers would not be held liable for damages resulting from independent repairs.

Right to Repair legislation has gained momentum in states across the country. Just last week, pending signature, Texas became the latest state to pass a form of this bill, meaning that right to repair protections will likely soon be in place for roughly a third of the U.S. consumer market. By passing House Bill 301, Ohio would join in granting consumers greater ownership over their digital equipment and in promoting the pride of ownership in our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any questions.