



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Federal Trade Commission
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Office of the Chair

**Statement of Chair Lina M. Khan
In the Matter of Deere & Company**



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software have created fresh opportunities for companies to limit independent repair. While manufacturers previously threatened to void warranties if customers relied on repairs from a different company, firms today can withhold the software tools entirely, depriving users of the code needed to even diagnose the problem.

In recent years, the Commission has made it a priority to protect Americans' right to repair their products and to ensure that independent mechanics are not being unlawfully shut out from the market. This is vital work. Illegal repair restrictions can inflate costs



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measures; and imposing restrictive end user license agreements. The Commission also found “scant evidence” to support manufacturers’ justifications for repair restrictions.⁶



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Commission staff also sent letters to eight companies notifying them that their warranty practices may be unlawfully hampering consumers' right to repair the products they have purchased.¹²

The Commission has brought a cross-agency approach to these issues, using resources and expertise from throughout the FTC to combat unlawful repair restrictions. As part of this work, the FTC has closely coordinated with state law enforcement, federal agencies, and policymakers to ensure compliance and to update existing law and regulation to advance the goal of honest, fair, and competitive repair markets. Commission staff have testified before state legislatures in Colorado and California to provide feedback on legislation advancing Americans' right to repair,¹³ and submitted advocacy letters in support of the right to repair in a number of other states.¹⁴ The FTC and DOJ also filed a joint comment with the U.S. Copy Tca6 (ou)-12 (ght)-2O(U)2.(of



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everyday items, will create new areas where repair restrictions inflate costs, create frustration, and harm competition.

Many thanks to the FTC team for the excellent investigative work on this matter over numerous years, including staff from Anticompetitive Practices I, the Litigation Group, the Office of Technology, the Bureau of Consumer Protection, and the Bureau of Economics.
