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September 12, 2022

The Honorable Jared Golden  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Underserved, Agricultural,  
and Rural Business Development  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Claudia Tenney  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Underserved, Agricultural  
and Rural Business Development  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Golden, Ranking Member Tenney & Members of the Committee:

The North American Equipment Dealers Association is an international trade association representing 4,500 farm, industrial and outdoor power equipment dealers in North America.

Our equipment dealer members are committed to supporting the Right to Repair and increasing uptime for customers. That is why our independent dealers, most of whom are small businesses themselves, and manufacturers have made a voluntary Industry Commitment to provide parts, tools, documentation, and diagnostics directly to equipment owners and independent repair shops. Our industry leads the country in providing repair and maintenance options for customers.

We support the Right to Repair, not to modify. Modern farm equipment is technologically advanced and strictly regulated by EPA standards. We do not support legislation that would facilitate circumvention of technology protection measures allowing modification of emissions and safety criteria. Doing so would jeopardize the safety of our dealer's employees, violate Clean Air Act regulations, create an unreliable used equipment market and lead to volatile liability concerns.

Allowing unfettered access to intellectual property is unnecessary for the purpose of repair and maintenance given what is available on the market today. The attached infographic based on a survey of our industry provides a clearer picture of the reality of repair for farm equipment. As you can see, nearly 60 percent of repairs to farm equipment are performed by someone other than the dealership. In addition to that, independent repair shops are frequent customers of dealerships and rely on a dealer's inventory to keep their own overhead low.

Our industry wants to make sure repair is done right-in a way that ensures the safety of dealer employees, protects the environment, and increases uptime for customers. There are many facets to the complex issue of Right to Repair, and we ask that you take into consideration the distinguishable factors farm equipment presents. Our association is here to answer any questions you may have about how we support customer repair.