



# *To Repair or Not to Repair:*

*The Shakespearean Question of 2021*

AUGUST 19, 2021

BUTLER | SNOW

## *Preview*

---

- Right to Repair Legislation
- Current Litigation Landscape
- Medical Device Right to Repair Legislation
- Potential Impact on Medical Device Manufacturers

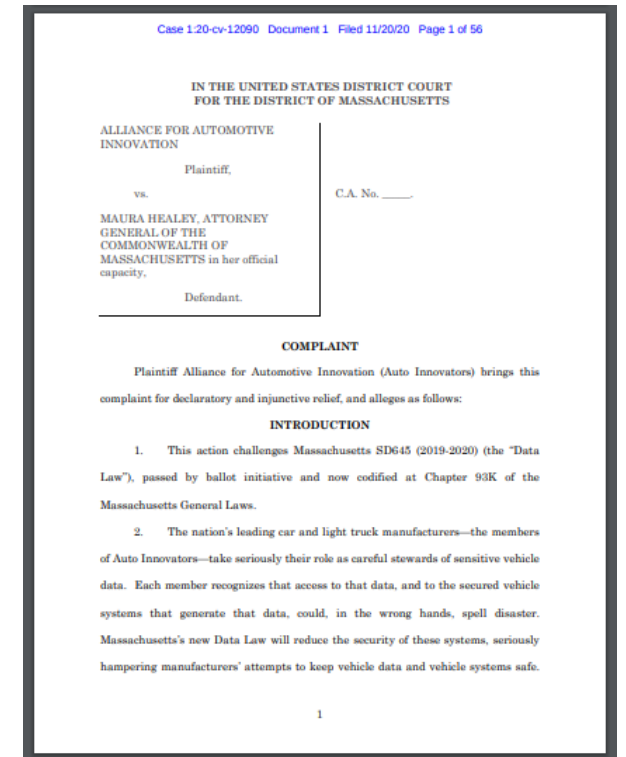
## Right to Repair Legislation

- Electronic Consumer Products
- “The Repair Organization”
- Model Legislation
  - Requirements
  - Limitations
    - Not required to divulge trade secrets “except as necessary to provide documentation, parts, and tools on fair and reasonable terms.”



## Current Litigation Landscape

- Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act
  - Requires automotive manufacturers to make diagnostic and repair information available to independent repair facilities.
  - New expansion includes access to telematics systems.
- *Alliance for Automotive Innovation v. Healey*, case number: 1:20-cv-12090, U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts



## Medical Device Right to Repair Legislation

- Impact of COVID-19
- Critical Medical Infrastructure Right-to-Repair Act of 2020
  - Require manufacturers to provide, on fair and reasonable terms, access to information and tools to diagnose, maintain, or repair medical equipment.
  - Allow owners or lessees of medical equipment to repair or maintain medical infrastructure.
- Arguments for/against



# Medical Infrastructure Right to Repair Act

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend title 17, United States Code, to address circumvention of copyright protection systems with respect to the maintenance or repair of critical medical infrastructure, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. WYDEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To amend title 17, United States Code, to address circumvention of copyright protection systems with respect to the maintenance or repair of critical medical infrastructure, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Critical Medical Infra-  
5 structure Right-to-Repair Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act—

BHP20789 10P

S.L.C.

1 (1) the term “commerce” has the meaning  
2 given the term in section 4 of the Federal Trade  
3 Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 44);

4 (2) the terms “covered emergency”, “covered  
5 service provider”, “critical medical infrastructure”,  
6 “repair”, and “service material” have the meanings  
7 given those terms in section 123(a) of title 17,  
8 United States Code, as added by section 3(a)(1) of  
9 this Act;

10 (3) the term “covered healthcare provider” has  
11 the meaning given the term in section 1201(l)(1) of  
12 title 17, United States Code, as added by section  
13 3(a)(2) of this Act;

14 (4) the term “critical medical infrastructure  
15 contract” means a contract relating to the purchase,  
16 leasing, licensing, repair, or maintenance (including  
17 periodic maintenance) of critical medical infrastruc-  
18 ture,

19 (5) the term “service provider” means any per-  
20 son engaged in the diagnosis of problems with re-  
21 spect to, or the service, maintenance, or repair of,  
22 critical medical infrastructure; and

23 (6) the term “trade secret” has the meaning  
24 given the term in section 1839 of title 18, United  
25 States Code.



# Medical Infrastructure Right to Repair Act

EHP20789 10P

S.L.C.

1       “(I) REPAIR OF CRITICAL MEDICAL INFRASTRUC-  
2       TURE RELATING TO COVID-19.—

3               “(1) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-  
4       section—

5               “(A) the terms ‘covered emergency’, ‘crit-  
6       ical medical infrastructure’, and ‘repair’ have  
7       the meanings given those terms in section  
8       123(a); and

9               “(B) the term ‘covered healthcare provider’  
10       means—

11               “(i) a healthcare provider who is the  
12       owner, lessee, or licensee of critical medical  
13       infrastructure; or

14               “(ii) the agent of a person described  
15       in clause (i).

16               “(2) PERMISSIBLE CIRCUMVENTION.—Notwith-  
17       standing the provisions of subsection (a)(1)(A), it is  
18       not a violation of that subsection for a covered  
19       healthcare provider to circumvent a technological  
20       measure that effectively controls access to a work  
21       protected under this title, if—

22               “(A) the purpose of the act of circumven-  
23       tion is to repair or maintain critical medical in-  
24       frastructure with respect to that covered  
25       healthcare provider; and

EHP20789 10P

S.L.C.

1               “(B) the repair or maintenance described  
2       in subparagraph (A) is part of preparation for,  
3       or a response to, the covered emergency.

4               “(3) ENABLING CIRCUMVENTION.—Notwith-  
5       standing the provisions of subsections (a)(2) and  
6       (b), it is not a violation of either such provision for  
7       a covered healthcare provider to manufacture, im-  
8       port, offer to the public, provide, or otherwise traffic  
9       in technological means to circumvent a technological  
10       measure that effectively controls access to a work  
11       protected under this title, or to circumvent protec-  
12       tion afforded by a technological measure that effec-  
13       tively controls access to a work protected under this  
14       title, if that action by that covered healthcare pro-  
15       vider enables a repair or maintenance permitted  
16       under paragraph (2).

17               “(4) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
18       this subsection may be construed to—

19               “(A) exempt a covered healthcare provider  
20       from compliance with any other applicable law  
21       or regulation relating to the repair or mainte-  
22       nance of critical medical infrastructure, except  
23       as explicitly provided in this subsection; or

24               “(B) prevent the Librarian of Congress  
25       from determining, under the applicable sub-

# Medical Infrastructure Right to Repair Act

EHP20789 10P

S.L.C.

10

1           “(B) the term ‘covered healthcare provider’  
2           has the meaning given the term in section  
3           1201(1) of title 17.

4           “(2) NON-INFRINGEMENT.—It shall not be an  
5           act of infringement with respect to a patent for de-  
6           sign obtained under section 171 for a covered  
7           healthcare provider to fabricate a part on a non-  
8           commercial basis, and as needed, for the repair or  
9           maintenance of critical medical infrastructure with  
10          respect to that covered healthcare provider, if the re-  
11          pair or maintenance is part of a response to the cov-  
12          ered emergency.

13          “(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
14          this subsection may be construed to exempt a cov-  
15          ered healthcare provider from compliance with any  
16          other applicable law or regulation relating to a part  
17          or critical medical infrastructure described in para-  
18          graph (2).”.

19 **SEC. 5. CONTRACTS.**

20          Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regula-  
21          tion, a provision of a critical medical infrastructure con-  
22          tract is null and void if that provision of the critical med-  
23          ical infrastructure contract prohibits or restricts the abil-  
24          ity of a covered healthcare provider that is a party to the  
25          contract to, in response to the covered emergency, repair

EHP20789 10P

S.L.C.

12

1          of access means at no charge, except that if the ap-  
2          plicable service provider requests documentation in  
3          physical printed form, the term “fair and reasonable  
4          terms” includes a charge imposed by the manufac-  
5          turer for the reasonable actual costs of preparing  
6          and sending the documentation.

7          (b) DUTY TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION.—The manu-  
8          facturer of a piece of critical medical infrastructure sold,  
9          leased, or otherwise introduced into commerce in the  
10          United States shall provide owners, lessees, or service pro-  
11          viders with respect to that piece of infrastructure with ac-  
12          cess to, on fair and reasonable terms, service materials  
13          that are required to—

14                  (1) diagnose problems with respect to that crit-  
15                  ical medical infrastructure; and

16                  (2) service, maintain, or repair that critical  
17                  medical infrastructure.

18          (c) DUTY TO MAKE TOOLS AVAILABLE.—The manu-  
19          facturer of critical medical infrastructure sold, leased, or  
20          otherwise introduced into commerce in the United States  
21          shall—

22                  (1) offer for sale to the owner or lessee of the  
23                  critical medical infrastructure, and to all service pro-  
24                  viders with respect to the critical medical infrastruc-  
25                  ture, on fair and reasonable terms, any tool (includ-



# Medical Infrastructure Right to Repair Act

EHP20789 10P

S.L.C.

13

1 ing software) for the diagnosis, service, maintenance,  
 2 or repair of the critical medical infrastructure; and  
 3 (2) provide all information that enables after-  
 4 market tool companies to manufacture tools with the  
 5 same functional characteristics as those tools made  
 6 available by the manufacturers to authorized dealers.

7 (d) EQUIPMENT.—The manufacturer of critical med-  
 8 ical infrastructure sold, leased, or otherwise introduced  
 9 into commerce in the United States shall offer for sale  
 10 to the owner or lessee of the critical medical infrastruc-  
 11 ture, and to all service providers with respect to the crit-  
 12 ical medical infrastructure, on fair and reasonable terms,  
 13 all equipment for diagnosis of problems with respect to,  
 14 service, maintenance, or repair of the critical medical in-  
 15 frastructure.

16 (e) PROTECTION OF TRADE SECRETS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), a  
 18 manufacturer of critical medical infrastructure may  
 19 not be required to publicly disclose information that,  
 20 if made public, would divulge methods or processes  
 21 entitled to protection as trade secrets under chapter  
 22 90 of title 18, United States Code.

23 (2) PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO DEALERS  
 24 OR SERVICE PROVIDERS.—A manufacturer of critical  
 25 medical infrastructure may not withhold information

EHP20789 10P

S.L.C.

14

1 under paragraph (1) on the ground that disclosing  
 2 the information would divulge methods or processes  
 3 entitled to protection as trade secrets under chapter  
 4 90 of title 18, United States Code, if that informa-  
 5 tion is provided directly or indirectly to authorized  
 6 dealers or service providers.

7 (f) ENFORCEMENT BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COM-  
 8 MISSION.—

9 (1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRAC-  
 10 TICES.—A violation of this section, or a regulation  
 11 promulgated under this section, shall be treated as  
 12 a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive  
 13 act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B)  
 14 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C.  
 15 57a(a)(1)(B)).

16 (2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—The Federal  
 17 Trade Commission (referred to in this subsection as  
 18 the “Commission”) shall enforce this section and  
 19 any regulation promulgated under this section in the  
 20 same manner, by the same means, and with the  
 21 same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all  
 22 applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade  
 23 Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incor-  
 24 porated into and made a part of this section. Any  
 25 person who violates this section or a regulation pro-

## Medical Device Right to Repair Legislation

- Impact of COVID-19
- Critical Medical Infrastructure Right-to-Repair Act of 2020
  - Require manufacturers to provide, on fair and reasonable terms, access to information and tools to diagnose, maintain, or repair medical equipment.
  - Allow owners or lessees of medical equipment to repair or maintain medical infrastructure.
- Arguments for/against



## *Potential Impacts on Medical Device Manufacturers*

---

- Safety Concerns
- Quality Concerns
- Litigation
- Cybersecurity

## *Takeaways*

---

- Awareness
- Advocacy
- Ask Questions
- Community Engagement

## Questions?

---



**Kasey Mitchell Adams**

*Kasey.Adams@butlersnow.com*

*(601) 985-4413*



*Thank You!*

BUTLER | SNOW