

Fiscal Estimate - 2025 Session

☒ Original ☐ Updated ☐ Corrected ☐ Supplemental

LRB Number 25-2476/1	Introduction Number AB-0147
Description the right to repair agricultural equipment, and providing a penalty	
Fiscal Effect State: ☐ No State Fiscal Effect ☐ Indeterminate ☐ Increase Existing Appropriations ☐ Decrease Existing Appropriations ☐ Create New Appropriations ☐ Increase Existing Revenues ☐ Decrease Existing Revenues ☒ Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Decrease Costs Local: ☐ No Local Government Costs ☐ Indeterminate 1. ☐ Increase Costs 3. ☐ Increase Revenue ☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory ☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory 2. ☐ Decrease Costs 4. ☐ Decrease Revenue ☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory ☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected ☐ Towns ☐ Counties ☐ School Districts ☐ Village ☐ Others ☐ WTCS Districts ☐ Cities	

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DATCP 4/11/2025

LRB Number	25-2476/1	Introduction Number	AB-0147	Estimate Type	Original
Description the right to repair agricultural equipment, and providing a penalty					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires agricultural equipment manufacturers to, upon request make available to agricultural equipment owners and independent service providers any documentation, data, embedded software, firmware, parts, or tools that are intended for use with agricultural equipment, at certain fair costs and fair terms as articulated in the bill.

The bill generally does not require manufacturers to provide documentation, parts, embedded software, firmware, or tools that would require a manufacturer to divulge a trade secret.

Finally, the bill exempts manufacturers and equipment dealers from liability stemming from an owner's or independent repair provider's faulty or otherwise improper repair that causes damage or loss of use of equipment, and exempts manufacturers from liability for an action resulting from a person's use or reliance upon data that the manufacturer provided to a person.

The department does not currently engage in any right to repair laws, so outreach and education would be conducted with both consumers and businesses that meet the definition of an agricultural equipment manufacturer. This would be to inform them of their rights and responsibilities under the regulations. These manufacturers may not be Wisconsin-based businesses. The department would establish processes to educate the industry, handle related complaints, and investigate and enforce when there are alleged violations involving Wisconsin users. Since Wisconsin enforces consumer protection laws against out-of-state businesses regularly, the enforcement would not be atypical in jurisdiction.

Under Chapter 100, DATCP would refer cases to the Attorney General's office or to local prosecutors if needed based on the investigations of consumer complaints. Since this represents a new area of enforcement for the department, it is not clear how many complaints will be filed. The department plans to absorb investigative costs but may need to seek additional positions in future budgets.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The long-range fiscal implications are unknown.