

### **Protect Workers, Protect Lives** Right to Repair Must Exempt **PPE & Safety Equipment**

**125** U.S. workers rely on PPE & safety equipment to keep Million safe on the job<sup>1</sup> \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 

> 54% of user-repaired farm equipment had critical safety features disabled or impaired<sup>2</sup>

Unlike household goods, PPE & safety equipment is highly regulated and rigorously tested to protect the health & safety of 125 million American workers.

Applying Right to Repair principles to PPE and safety equipment could have deadly consequences.

Improper repairs or use of nonapproved parts can void federal certifications and lead to serious injuries or fatalities.

### **Unsafe Repairs Put Workers at Risk**



**Fall Protection** Harness



**SCBA Respirator** 



**Emergency Shower** 



#### **Risks of Improper Repairs**



Fatal fall if the self-retracting lifeline fails to arrest a worker



Asphyxiation, burns or death from failed breathing apparatus or PASS device



Lethal chemical burns if units fail to deliver immediate flushing in an emergency



Permanent hearing loss if electronic circuits fail to block hazardous noise

## When A Repair Goes Wrong







A portable gas detector is incorrectly repaired and calibrated by an unauthorized technician who uses non-OEM parts.

A worker enters a confined space, **relying on** the gas detector to ensure safe oxygen levels. He's unaware that it was repaired and calibrated by an unauthorized and untrained technician.



The detector gives a false safe reading. Due to oxygen deficiency, the worker collapses and dies.

#### **Right to Repair Conflicts with Multiple Standards**



**29 1910.134(h)(4)(iii)**<sup>3</sup> "[Equipment]...shall be adjusted or repaired only by the manufacturer or a technician trained by the manufacturer."



**NIOSH Policy**<sup>4</sup> "...A respirator that includes any replacement or spare part that has not been inspected [by NIOSH staff members]....is not NIOSH approved.'



NFPA 1852 § 4.9.15 Technicians shall be qualified and authorized by the SCBA manufacturer to perform specified allowable maintenance.<sup>:</sup>

# **Tell Congress**

Keep PPE & Safety Equipment **OUT of Right to Repair** Legislation

Learn more at safetyequipment.org

#### SOURCES

- 1 ISEA https://safetyequipment.org/industry-impact/
- ISEA https://saletyedupment.org/moustry-impact/ AED https://illegaltampering.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Illegal-Tampering\_8.5x11-1.pdf OSHA https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134 NIOSH https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/usernotices/pdfs/UsersNotice05042007-508.pdf NFPA https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/nfpa-1852-standard-development/1852