March 29, 2023

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry

Assemblymember, CA State Assembly

1021 O Street, Suite 6350

Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

**Re: Support of SB 271, 2023-2024**

Dear State Senator Dodd,

The Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance (YHAA) members are promoters of the well-being of our older adults and those with disabilities in Yolo County. We are active with education, collaboration, and advocacy,and **are in support of SB 271**. We appreciate your additions to and support for the Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law, Section One, Chapter 8.5 to assist our residents who rely on an electric wheelchair for personal transportation. Assistive technology requires well-trained technicians to provide full care and repair when needed and for the original manufacturers to provide necessary information, excluding trade secrets, for the inspection, diagnosis, and appropriate repairs.

YHAA understands that quality of life and mobility is linked to one’s ability to perform daily activities that others take for granted. For those of our residents who are using an electric wheelchair, any disruption of the chair’s function also disrupts their lives and may then require more assistance through our county’s services or family assistance. Finding a repair service that has sufficient knowledge of the assistive technology can be difficult, so having this bill, the Right to Repair is essential.

**YHAA would like you to consider adding the manual wheelchair to the Right to Repair, SB 271 Bill**. Many of our residents who use an electric wheelchair also have a manual chair, as it is slightly smaller and substantially lighter, and is usually used for appointments to physicians or other engagements. Other residents who exclusively use a manual wheelchair also need timely services of inspection, diagnosis, and repair. Using any wheelchair that needs repair is dangerous and can lead to injury and loss of mobility.

We do appreciate your outreach, priorities, and your district representative, Lysette Marshman, as she attends our monthly meetings.

Sincerely,

Sheila Allen, RN, PhD

Executive Director, Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance