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Senator Carlos Guillermo Smith and Rep. Anna V. Eskamani Introduce Right to Repair Act for Powered Wheelchairs

Orlando, FL: Senator Carlos Guillermo Smith and Representative Anna V. Eskamani have filed the SB 412: [Right to Repair Act for Powered Wheelchairs](#), landmark legislation aimed at empowering wheelchair users by ensuring they can access timely and affordable repairs for their essential mobility devices. This bill seeks to address the growing challenges faced by Floridians who experience long wait times and high costs due to restrictive repair practices in the mobility device industry.

Key Provisions of the Right to Repair Act for Powered Wheelchairs:

- **Access to Repair Manuals and Tools:** Requires manufacturers of powered wheelchairs to provide independent repair providers and wheelchair owners with the necessary repair manuals, diagnostic tools, and parts.
- **Prohibition on Exclusive Contracts:** Bans manufacturers from restricting repair services to authorized dealers or repair centers, ensuring broader access to qualified repair providers.
- **Timely Availability of Parts:** Mandates that manufacturers make replacement parts available for purchase by wheelchair owners and independent repair providers without undue delays.
- **Consumer Protections:** Enhances protections for wheelchair users by ensuring transparency in repair costs and timelines.

Senator Smith's Statement: *"Access to affordable and timely repairs for powered wheelchairs is not a luxury—it's a necessity. This bill is a crucial step forward in ensuring the independence and well-being of wheelchair users across Florida. As someone who champions the needs of our diverse community, I am proud to file this bill along with Representative Eskamani."*

Representative Eskamani's Statement: *"Powered wheelchairs are not just devices; they are lifelines for thousands of Floridians. The current lack of repair options leaves too many people stranded, unable to live their lives fully and independently. This Right to Repair Act will put the power back into the hands of wheelchair users and ensure their mobility and dignity are never compromised by unnecessary delays or exorbitant costs."*

The Right to Repair Act for Powered Wheelchairs has already gained support from disability rights advocates, health care providers, and consumer protection organizations. These groups recognize the transformative potential of this legislation in improving the quality of life for individuals who rely on mobility devices.

Representative Eskamani and Senator Smith invite all Floridians to join in supporting the Right to Repair Act for Powered Wheelchairs. By passing this legislation, we can remove barriers to mobility and ensure that no one's independence is limited by avoidable repair challenges.

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