



# HB22-1031: CONSUMER RIGHT TO REPAIR POWERED WHEELCHAIRS

## SUMMARY

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The bill requires a manufacturer to provide access to items necessary to facilitate power wheelchair repairs on equipment owned by a consumer.

### WHAT THIS BILL DOES

An original equipment manufacturer will make available to an independent repair provider or owner of the manufacturer's equipment any:

- Documentation (such as manuals or diagrams)
- Parts
- Embedded software
- Firmware
- Tools

The bill provides key exemptions for:

- Parts that are no longer available to the original manufacturer
- Information or materials that would divulge trade secrets

*Materials and parts will be made available at fair and reasonable terms and costs.*

### SUPPORTING

- AARP
- Association of Colorado Centers for Independent Living
- Chronic Care Collaborative
- Colorado Consumer Health Initiative
- Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition
- Colorado Hospital Association
- Colorado Long Term Care Ombudsman Program
- Colorado Sierra Club
- CoPIRG and affiliates
- Denver Health
- National Federation Of Independent Business (NFIB)
- SCL Health
- The Arc of Colorado

### MONITORING

- AT&T
- Biotechnology Innovation Organization
- Colorado Cable Telecommunications Association
- Colorado Cable Television Association
- Colorado Childrens Alliance
- Easterseals Colorado
- Healthone/HCA
- Leading Age Colorado
- Shiloh House

### OPPOSING

- Colorado Association of Medical Equipment Services (CAMES)
- Colorado BioScience Association
- Colorado Competitive Council
- NuMotion

### WHY THIS BILL IS NEEDED

"My joystick randomly turned off in August and in trying to get my chair repaired I was able to get a new joystick. The repair company forgot the wire to attach it and I have yet to receive it. Luckily I had a back up joystick and wire that work so I am okay-ish. ..." - Lyza

*My lift needed a new battery and I could not even get someone to return calls or schedule someone to come work on it. Finally fixed it myself as I used to be a service tech.*

- Mark

"It took 4 months and they charged \$500 for a button that allows B to power his wheelchair. Without it, he is stuck in bed. Got it mailed overnight from Ebay for about \$20. It plugs into a box like a headset for an old phone."

- Robin

My tilt went out and no repair was available for weeks so my handiman fixed it piecing things together from my backup chair. I could have been left in bed for weeks, likely causing a pressure sore which would have cost more than \$500K for Medicaid to fix.

-Kevin