(your name)

(your address)

August 31, 2022

Honorable Gavin Newsom

Governor, State of California

1021 O Street, Suite 9000

Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Requesting signature on AB 371 (Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer, Sr.)

Via email to:

leg.unit@gov.ca.gov

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing in support of Assembly Bill 371 (Jones-Sawyer) which would ensure pedestrians are extended existing liability coverage if they are injured by a shared mobility device. This bill also requires the addition of braille and tactile signage with raised characters on e-scooter to help people who are blind or have vision impairments to identify the e-scooter provider and locate necessary contact information to file an injury report.

As shared mobility devices, such as e-scooters, become a more popular means of transportation, pedestrians face an increased risk of injury. Improperly parked e-scooters and riders using the devices in the pedestrian walkway pose a great danger and can lead to severe injuries for pedestrians, especially for older adults, young children, individuals with disabilities and those who are blind or have vision impairments who rely on clear walkways free of hindrance.

Existing liability coverage is already extended to users injured as a result of operating e-scooters but does not cover accident victims. Other modes of transportation, such as Zipcar, ensure liability coverage for those injured by a user operating their devices. Further, the City of Cincinnati requires at least $10,000 coverage per pedestrian injury due to e-scooters, confirming the insurance product exists. Insurance protection should similarly be extended to pedestrians injured by e-scooters.

The absence of braille and tactile signage with raised characters on e-devices prevents individuals who are blind or have vision impairments from accessing information about the provider after an injury. The addition of such signage will ensure pedestrians who are blind or have vision impairments can properly identify the e-device provider’s contact information to file a report.

(insert your own stories or ideas about the bill)

For the reasons previously stated, I am pleased to support AB 371 and urge you to sign it into law.

Sincerely,

Name Here

cc:        Assemblymember Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Sr., Assembly District 59

cc: Natalia Garcia, Legislative Assistant, Office of Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer <Natalia.Garcia@asm.ca.gov>

cc: Jessica Devencenzi, Deputy Legislative Secretary & Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Governor Newsom’s Office of Legislative Affairs <Jessica.Devencenzi@gov.ca.gov>