

FTR

My name is David Bartos and I reside at 94 Grant St in Hartford, CT. I am currently out of town and would like to testify on behalf of Next Health in support of Senate Bill 175.

Both my mother and I benefitted from her having the Agile Life system at home. My mother suffered from congestive heart failure (CHF), diabetes and kidney disease and had a complicated medical history. She experienced a number of falls, including one in a long term care facility, and eventually became immobile. Not only was this very difficult for my mother, it was also a burden on family and difficult for the aide to reposition and transfer her. I was frequently called both at home and at work and needed to go to my mother's house to help transfer her in or out of bed or to help boost her in bed.

When we received the Agile Life, this changed. Not only was the Agile Life the best thing for her --- she was much more comfortable in the bed and it was much easier to get in and out of bed now --- it no longer required my needing to frequently leave work to assist. One caregiver was able to both transfer and boost my mother in bed safely and comfortably. The ability to raise the foot and head of the head and the ability to get out of bed daily and sit in the wheelchair was better for my mother due to fluids in her lungs from the CHF and the swelling in her legs. In addition, my mother had difficulty using a bedpan and the ability of the wheelchair to convert to a commode made things much easier and more comfortable for her. She experienced no falls while having this system.

Next Health's customer service was wonderful and I would recommend the Agile Life to others. My mother is now deceased however my sister Annette feels the same way I do about the impact of the Agile Life on all of our lives. I submit this testimony in the hope that this product will be considered for insurance coverage by the state of Connecticut.