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TOLEDO
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Portable Device to Assist in Moving Between Standing and Seated Positions

For individuals with limited mobility and/or strength, it is often difficult to transition between a seated and a standing position. This difficulty is especially true for individuals who attempt to use seats having cushions such as sofas and cushioned chairs. Existing portable devices for assisting such individuals that can be moved from seat to seat are often complicated structures which the individual must position in front of the seat in order to lift himself into or out of the seat. In order for an individual to be able to effectively use this type of portable device, the individual must have a fair amount of upper body strength and agility in order to both lift one's own body weight while simultaneously shifting one's weight either forward and up out of the seat, or down and back into the seat. For individuals who are unsteady or who do not possess the required strength, these devices can be somewhat dangerous to use since the individual can pitch forward when attempting to rise or can strain muscles when attempting to ease oneself into a seated position. Other existing devices exist that have a lifting mechanism built into the seat. These dedicated seating systems are expensive and often need to be positioned near an energy source in order to power the system. Thus, an improved device has been developed that is ergonomically designed to assist individuals to safely and easily move between standing and seated positions.

The University of Toledo is seeking a company interested in utilizing this improved portable device to assist a person in need thereof in moving between standing and seated positions from a seat.

Applications:

1. To assist individuals in safely and easily standing from a seated position
2. To assist individuals in safely and easily sitting from a standing position

Advantages:

1. Ergonomically designed
2. Easily portable
3. Adjustable to fit any desired shape of furniture

This invention is patent pending

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