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(54) Title: UNI-DIRECTIONAL RIGIDIFIER AND METHOD

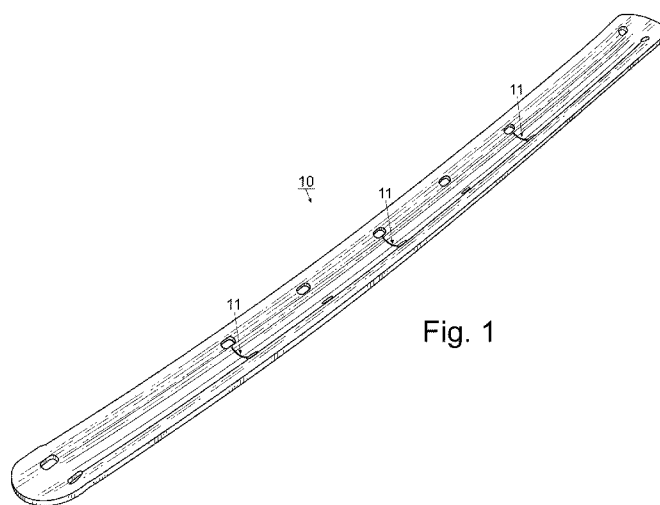


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: A uni-directional rigidifier for a foldable mattress for use in sofa beds has an arcuate, elongated shape. Lateral slits along the rigidifier allow it to easily flex when a load is applied while in an upright position. When the rigidifier is in an inverted po-
sition, an applied load causes the slits to close and the rigidifier to stiffen. The method describes the use of the uni-directional rigidi-
fier in a foldable sofa bed mattress.

