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Body Limb Movement Limiter

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(54) BODY LIMB MOVEMENT LIMITER

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U.S.C. 154(b) by 208 days.

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Related U.S. Application Data

- (60) Division of application No. 11/099,381, filed on Apr. 4, 2005, now Pat. No. 7,402,147, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/992,611, filed on Nov. 19, 2001, now abandoned.
- (60) Provisional application No. 60/249,312, filed on Nov. 17, 2000.
- (51) **Int. Cl.**

A61F 5/00 (2006.01)

- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **602/20**; 602/5; 602/19

See application file for complete search history.

(56) References Cited

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Primary Examiner—Kim M Lewis (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Peter Loffler

(57) ABSTRACT

A body limb movement limiter restrains the movement of a person's arm so as to protect the person's shoulder or restrains the movement of a person's lower leg with respect to the upper leg so as to protect the person's knee. The device uses a housing having a reel disposed therein with a tether attached thereto and a shear thickening non-Newtonian fluid disposed within the housing so that the fluid acts on the reel during a payout procedure of the tether. The housing is attached to a strap secured about the torso of the person while the free end of the tether is secured about the person's arm. Alternately, a pair of arms are pivotally secured to each other within a housing having the non-Newtonian fluid therein for limiting movement of one arm with respect to the other.

9 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

