

I am Cynthia White. My Mom was Dortha. I am writing in support of Bill 2782 and SF 999.

She was a retired elementary school teacher who wanted to live her life, to see and do things.

Mom had multiple sclerosis and was unable to move her legs, or stand on her own. She used a wheelchair. She lived with me while in her late 50s and through her 60s when I lived in California.

Mom flew on airplanes to visit her two other children (my brother and sister) and their kids. She rode horses, she rode a camel, she went to Yosemite. she went to Disneyland many times where she was lifted onto the rides. She volunteered at an elementary school where children could sit on her lap and she helped them with reading.

Also she was incontinent, did not have an in-dwelling catheter, and wore adult Depends.

So I catheterized her and changed her diaper in the back of the station wagon while at the San Diego Wild Animal Park. I catheterized her in the bathroom of the SF airport, with her slid down in her chair, legs propped on the toilet seat, holding on for dear life as I inserted the catheter. Thank goodness the wheelchair brake held and she did not fall off the wheelchair and possibly break a bone or worse.

If it was the norm to have universal changing tables, maybe more people would volunteer if they could get changed, like my Mom volunteered.

If you have parents if you have children ... some day you may need to help them ... or they will need to help you ... with what should be private bathroom functions. Not in the back of a car, or on a floor.

Not having clean, safe places to change a catheter can cause urinary tract infections, which can have serious side effects. An adult changing table would have been SO much easier for us, and provided her some dignity. As it would for you.

Please pass this bill.

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