



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Board of Naturopathic Medicine

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SB 109

Health Care and Human Services Committee

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair

Senator Jeff Kruse, Vice-Chair

Senator Tim Knopp

Senator Chip Shields

Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward

Re: SB109

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

As the Executive Director of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine, I am here to ask your support of SB 109.

SB 109 authorizes a designee of the Board of Naturopathic Medicine to issue subpoenas for the purpose of timely investigation of alleged violation of laws relating to the practice of naturopathic medicine.

The Board of Naturopathic Medicine investigates all concerns and complaints that come to the Agency's attention. In its mission to protect the public, the Board may require written testimony, patient records from a licensee, or other sources, such as a hospital and other health care providers, as part of the investigation. Currently a subpoena may be issued by the Board's Director or Investigator; however, it can only be issued under the signature of the Board's chair.

By law, the Board must conduct timely investigations. If the issuance of a subpoena needs to wait on the signature of the Board's Chairperson, there is the potential for delay in the investigation process. The ability to issue timely subpoenas is critical in the board's effort to conduct timely investigations.

The OBNM requests the authority in statute to authorize a designee of the Board to issue subpoenas as part of the investigation process.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Anne Walsh

Executive Director