



Oregon

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Board of Naturopathic Medicine

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Senate Health Care Committee
Senator Tim Knopp, Chair
Senator Jeff Kruse, Vice Chair
Senator Laurie Monnes-Anderson
Senator Chip Shields
Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward

RE: SB 281

Dear Chair Knopp, Vice-Chair Kruse and Members of the Committee.

My name is Anne Walsh and I am the Executive Director for the Board of Naturopathic Medicine. I have been with the agency since 1999 and every time a vacancy comes up, we find ourselves scrambling to make sure we have the right composition and diversity we desire on the Board.

The Board is composed of seven members, 5 are Naturopathic physicians, 2 are Public Members.

The amendment to SB 281 is being requested to assure new board members serve two full terms. When a vacancy occurs, it can take several months to fill. Currently, the replacement member finishes out the term (of the vacancy), which can be very short. So instead of serving 6 years, they may only serve 6 months, 1 year or two years of the vacated term, and a second three year term. It may not sound like a problem, but it can take a full three years for a member to feel completely comfortable in their role as a Board member.

In the Board's effort to look towards continuity of Board consistency and participation we are requesting approval of SB 281.

With Regards,



Anne Walsh

