

2/8/2019

Doug Richards
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Subject: Oregon Association of Naturopathic Physicians Pay Parity Bill

Dear Senate and Health Care Committees,

This is not a one size fits all world. Designating one accredited practitioner as more valuable than another accredited practitioner is wrong. It is wrong for patients who rely on their ND where traditional MDs have not made the grade. It is wrong for the state to play referee putting their thumb on the scale for one group while shutting out the other. You should not be in the business of picking winners and losers or limiting patient choice.

Lack of parity will drive competent professionals out of our market place further restricting choice and adding to price pressure. Supply and demand still work. Tilting the playing field will result in higher healthcare costs for everyone.

As a parent of a young adult with autism you can be sure that when it comes to medical options to meet our child's needs more options are better. We have benefited from treatment from a Naturopathic Physician and would feel a real loss if that option disappeared.

The Naturopathic Physician Pay Parity bill makes our health care system stronger. Please vote yes for families like mine by supporting the Naturopathic Physician Pay Parity bill. Thank you.

Doug Richards