



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Board of Naturopathic Medicine

800 NE Oregon Street Suite 407

Portland, OR 97232-2187

971-673-0193

971-673-0226 (fax)

April 9, 2019

### Senate Committee on Health Care

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair

Senator Dennis Linthicum, Vice-Chair

Senator Lee Beyer, Member

Senator Shemia Fagan, Member

Senator Tim Knopp, Member

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson, Vice-Chair Linthicum and Members:

Thank you for hearing our legislative request, House Bill 2090. My name is Mary-Beth Baptista and I am the Executive Director of the Board of Naturopathic Medicine.

### **Board of Naturopathic Medicine: Mission and Program Information**

The mission of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is to regulate, through the Oregon Revised Statutes and Administrative Rules, the practices of naturopathic medicine in order to ensure protection of the public. We promote excellence in the practice of naturopathic medicine by assuring quality education, regulating naturopathic practices, and fostering ongoing public outreach. In this manner, the Board cultivates public trust and safety by ensuring the State of Oregon is served by naturopathic professionals providing the highest standards of care.

The Board of Naturopathic Medicine consists of seven members appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate. Of the members on the Board, five must be naturopathic physicians who each practiced continuously in the state for five years immediately prior to the date of appointment. Two are members of the general public without any connection to a naturopathic physician. The current board is comprised of five naturopathic doctors that hail from all parts of the state, and have training, experience and expertise in diverse practice fields. One public member is an attorney, the other is a practicing physical therapist who was previously the Chair of the Oregon Board of Physical Therapy. The Board meets bi-monthly, the second Monday of all even months.

The Board staff consists of three full time employees, an Administrative Assistant, a Licensed Private Investigator, and myself, the Executive Director of the Board since February 2017. I have been a licensed attorney in Oregon since 2001. I was previously the Director of the Portland City Auditor's Independent Police Review Division (IPR).

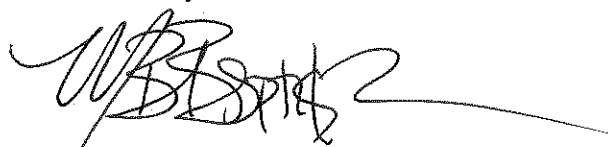


investigation process is now in the hands of professional Board staff, the Board has jurisdiction over all 1155 Licensees to determine whether or not a Licensee committed a violation of statute or rule. Further, the Board has the authority to impose discipline on an extensive range of violations as listed in Oregon Revised Statutes and Oregon Administrative Rules.

For all of the aforementioned reasons, it is the Board's position that Licensees and the public are better served with the current process, rather than reverting to the "Peer Review" committee and process established in ORS 685.020. We respectfully urge the passage of House Bill 2090 to eliminate the "Peer Review" statutory requirement.

Thank you. We welcome your questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary-Beth Baptista', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mary-Beth Baptista  
Executive Director