

From the Desk of KE Edmisten, ND, LAc
Naturopathic Doctor, Licensed Acupuncturist

March 25, 2021

RE: SB722, Support Fair Pay for Naturopathic Doctors (NDs)

Dear Senate Health Care Committee,

I am KE Edmisten, a Naturopathic Doctor (ND), working on the beautiful Oregon coast for over 30 years. I would love to share my experience working as a licensed ND and ask you to please support SB722.

I love helping people. That is why I sacrificed so much to become a physician and practice medicine in my local community of Newport. I love connecting with all kinds of people and helping them understand more about their health and happiness !! We work together to understand the body, the medical conditions and to implement a plan to attain and maintain balance and ongoing better health.

I often manage the majority of the healthcare needs for my patients, whether it is their annual physical exam, lab orders, health screenings like PAP smears or prescriptions. I also make referrals to other healthcare providers and specialists when needed. In addition, I teach my patients about diet and nutrition, how to stay active, manage stress, improve their sleep and become more proactive in their own health journey. All of these things come together to create a more complete and individualized treatment plan for each patient.

Unfortunately, NDs are not being fairly compensated for our valuable contributions to healthcare in our great state. This makes it much more difficult for someone like me to stay in practice and deliver this essential and unique level of care. It also limits access to healthcare for people in my area, already hit hard in many ways. It makes it difficult for me to stay afloat economically: to repay student loans, to raise a family and to give back to the community.

I am asking you and your colleagues to please vote YES on SB722 and support fair pay for Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely in Health,

KE Edmisten, ND, LAc
Naturopathic Physician
Licensed Acupuncturist