

Dear Senate Health Care Committee,

My name is Tom DeWolf, and I am a patient of a Naturopathic Doctor (ND) in Bend. I ask you to please support SB772.

I work with many types of medical providers, and my Naturopathic physician has devoted as much time and care for my health and welfare as any of my other doctors. The level of education, support and competent care that I have received has not only helped me move forward with my health conditions but has increased my faith in the healthcare system.

However, right now in Oregon NDs are not being fairly compensated for their valuable contributions to healthcare in our great state. This makes it more difficult for people like me to access this unique and essential level of care. It also limits my choices when it comes to healthcare.

My ND manages a significant portion of my healthcare needs, including support for standard medical procedures as well as exploring alternatives where appropriate. She listens to my concerns and responds quickly and appropriately, as do her staff. She collaborates well with other competent providers and specialists supporting my healthcare. In addition, she teaches me about diet and nutrition, how to stay active, manage stress, improve my sleep and become more proactive in my own healthcare. All of these things come together to create a more complete treatment plan for my health. I feel significantly better (physically, mentally, and spiritually) than I have for many years.

I am asking you to vote yes on SB772 and support fair pay for Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas N. DeWolf

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