

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been an alternative energy medicine practitioner and teacher for more than 20 years in Multnomah County.

I offer individual sessions, classes, and ceremonies (including weddings). I am also a contract teacher and council member for LightSong School of 21st Century Shamanism and Energy Medicine. This organization has dedicated itself to integrity in the training and practice of alternative medicine.

I found the modalities of Reiki, energy medicine, and shamanic practice after being diagnosed with Stage 4 Breast Cancer in 1999. I credit these modalities, along with allopathic medicine, for the gift of my life and my healing. This experience is the reason I have dedicated myself to be a healer and a teacher; to be in service and to give back to those who need help, especially those who have not experienced success with mainstream healing modalities.

Myself and my colleagues follow a strict Code of Ethics. We utilize intake forms clearing stating that we are not mental health professionals or allopathic doctors. We require that our clients continue with any existing treatments. If you are interested, I can provide a copy.

Our concern, as alternative healers is that **this bill does not outline any specific actions, and instead appears to put the regulatory jurisdiction in unknown hands.**

- I support, teach, and apply practitioner transparency in training and qualification.
- I support guidelines for stating the professional qualifications.

All in the name of safety and clarity for the public.

I do not support the passing of this bill in regards to broad term regulations for the alternative health field. Much more consideration should go into such an act.

Furthermore, in many other states, this type of bill is a disguise for a small group of people who are seeking to profit off mandatory state training. Please consider all potential ramifications of this bill before moving forward.

I would be happy to serve on any committee formed to further the professional practices of alternative medicine in Oregon. Feel free to contact me at any time.

Respectfully,

Karen Hefner, MA, MS, ShD

503-936-9367