

Dear Senate and Health Care Committees,

My name is Dan Robertson, and I am a patient of a Naturopathic Physician. I would like to share my experience working with an ND to show the importance of this profession in the state of Oregon.

I have worked with three different NDs in Oregon over the past 10 years — one in Salem and two in Portland — and all have helped me make great strides in my health and personal thriving! Under the care and advice of my primary care NDs, I've accomplished the following health outcomes:

- Reduced body fat
- Improved long-term health markers in blood tests
- Found and adopted a consistent fitness training program
- Improved my mental health
- Increased my productivity in my job and personal life

This stands in stark contrast to my experiences with primary care MDs in Oregon. While the NDs I've seen have focused on proactive management of my health — the MDs I used to see were less informed of modern scientific research and treatment options and focused primarily on reactively prescribing medication in response to acute health problems.

Also, under the care of an ND during the birth of our third child, my wife had the best pregnancy, child birth, and postpartum care experience she has had of the three children she has carried and delivered!

It is frustrating to know that the NDs who have created so much value for me as a patient are not compensated as well as their peers with different certifications. Please help to change this!

Why are naturopathic physicians paid so little compared to the other providers I have seen?

I am asking that you vote YES on the Naturopathic Physician Pay Parity bill.

Sincerely,

Dan Robertson