

January 28, 2022

Re: YES ON HB 4006, Simply time for Fair Pay.

Dear House Health Care Committee,

My name is Adam Sadowski and I am a Naturopathic Doctor (ND) and researcher. I would like to share my experience working in Oregon as a licensed ND and ask you to please support HB 4006.

I often manage the majority of the healthcare needs for my patients, whether it be their annual physical, advocating for and providing vaccinations according to the CDC schedule, ordering labs, health screenings, or prescription(s). I also make referrals to other competent providers and specialists when appropriate. In addition, I extensively discuss evidence-based preventative health measures to reduce long term costs associated with health care utilization with my patients such as smoking cessation, screening for mental health concerns, improving nutrition, exercise/physical activity, stress management, sleep, and becoming more proactive in their own healthcare.

Unfortunately, NDs are not being fairly compensated for our valuable contributions to healthcare. This makes it more difficult for people like me to stay in practice and deliver this essential, desired and unique level of care. The state is allowing private insurance companies to limit access to healthcare for patients and their families in the community.

I love helping people, providing comprehensive and equitable care to my community, and have gone through a rigorous medical program to become a licensed physician and practice medicine, much like any other provider in health care.

For those of us who have been able to choose to stay in the plans, we do so at a great economic disadvantage to our peers, making it difficult to repay student loans, support staff and their families and give back to the community. One option is moving to an all-cash model that would significantly impact access to care due to financial constraints placed on patients, the other option is to finally pass HB 4006.

Sincerely yours,

Adam Sadowski, ND, MS