

February 2, 2022

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

Dear House Health Care Committee,

My name is Ryan Bradley, ND, MPH and I am an Oregon-licensed Naturopathic Doctor (ND). I would like to share my experience working in Oregon as a licensed ND and ask you to please support HB 4006.

I love contributing to the health of the State of Oregon. Never before have we witnessed the importance of promoting health than in this pandemic. I made a choice to spend years (and approximately \$150,000) to attend medical school to become a licensed physician and practice medicine in my local community. I love connecting with people whatever perspective they are coming from, and helping them both understand their medical condition and successfully implement a plan to move their health forward, as much so as any other provider on the health care team. In fact, evidence from naturopathic practices suggest, as a provider group, we spend more time and deliver more health promotion counseling (per US Preventative Service Guidelines) than other categories of health care providers.

I often manage the majority of the healthcare needs for my patients, whether it be their annual physical, lab orders, health screenings or prescription(s). I also make referrals to other competent providers and specialists when appropriate. 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 healthcare. I deliver these services as preventive strategies for nearly all patients, and especially for those with, or at risk for, chronic diseases, including heart disease, diabetes, COPD, depression and chronic pain. All of these things come together to create a patient-centered, and complete long-term care plan, consistent with the health care “triple aim” and lower cost-savings.

Currently, NDs are not being equitably compensated for our valuable contributions to healthcare. This makes it more difficult for people like me to stay in practice and deliver this essential level of care. Shouldn't place a higher value on health care that promotes primary prevention, self-care oriented chronic disease management, and reduced prescription drug utilization and costs?

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. Options including leaving primary care, moving to an all-cash model that limits access- or pass HB 4006 - and extend the contribution to health made by naturopathic doctors in the State of Oregon.

Please vote “Yes” on HB 4006

Sincerely yours,



Ryan Bradley, ND, MPH