

February 2, 2022

Re: YES ON HB 4006, I'm a Patient and support my ND

Dear House Health Care Committee,

My name is Steve Dodge and I am a patient of a Naturopathic Doctor, Dr. Juliette Soihl, ND, LMT of the Common Ground Wellness Center in Portland. I would like to share my experience working with her, and ask you to support HB4006.

Dr. Soihl is extremely valuable to my health and well-being. Since about 2014 she has worked with me on issues of depression, chronic pain, arthritis and heart disease, all the while taking the time and using her deep expertise in medicine to stabilize and treat these conditions and several other conditions related to aging.

Unfortunately in Oregon NDs are not being fairly compensated for their contributions to my health and to the healthcare of this state. This puts my doctor on unstable financial ground, and my access to this highly valued care at constant risk.

It is essential that I be able to utilize my health insurance to see my doctor. I cannot afford to both purchase health insurance against major medical expenses and pay out of pocket for my regular and preventive care. That's just not right.

Dr. Soihl not only handles most of my everyday medical needs, she also refers me to competent providers and specialists in the conventional medicine world as needed. Nearly all of them operate in partnership or in network with other providers, truly ensuring that my health is optimized.

My ND takes the time to teach me about my health concerns and how to best manage my health through diet and nutrition, staying active, overcoming stress, and improving my sleep, in addition to prescribing medications and treatments.

I am asking you to please vote yes on HB4006 and ensure fair access to licensed Naturopathic Doctors.

Sincerely yours,

Steve Dodge
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