

February 2, 2022

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

Dear House Health Care Committee,

My name is Brian Cheney. I am a spouse of a Naturopathic Doctor. I would like to share my observations of my husband as a medical provider, and ask you to support HB4006.

There are of course many types of medical providers and models of care. The one I have come to value - and desire to keep seeing - is NDs. My husband's patients feel cared for and are cared for with the dedicated time and attention to their healthcare needs.

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

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

My husband is a licensed ND and manages the majority of his patients' healthcare needs. Whether it be their annual exam, lab orders, other health screenings and prescriptions. He also refers his patients 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 his patients' health is optimized.

My husband, as an ND, takes the time to teach his patients about their health concerns and how to best manage their health through diet and nutrition, staying active, overcoming stress, and improving their 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Cheney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" being more prominent than the last name "Cheney".

Brian Cheney
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