

**February 2, 2022**

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

**Dear House Health Care Committee,**

My name is Jessa Reinhardt, my entire family is cared for by an amazing Naturopathic Doctor. I would like to share my experience working with our medical provided, and ask you to support HB4006.

We came to naturopathic care in 2017, after we had received subpar care from a pediatrician. The last time I stepped foot into a pediatricians office, I left in tears. Feeling unheard, disrespected, and like our family was just a number and a paycheck. We luckily landed with an amazing ND who took tremendous time to review our family history and immediately began work on helping us navigate chronic health conditions with my child.

From there, we have all transferred our care to our ND, including using her as my midwife, who delivered my 3<sup>rd</sup> daughter. Keeping our families care under one provider has allowed for a level of in-depth knowledge, understanding, and respect that cannot be matched.

Through our ND, chronic and acute health conditions for my family of five have been diagnosed and managed extremely well, with referrals sent to specialists as needed. She has prescribed all of our medications, knowing which of us prefer/need them compounded and which of us can use a standard pharmacy. She has gone out of her way to schedule labs to be drawn closer to my rural home and works with our family to make scheduling appointments in office as easy as possible.

I truly respect the education, talent, and care of Naturopathic Doctors, 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 am grateful my doctor currently accepts my employer's health coverage, my children's supplemental Medicaid, as well as Open Card of my disabled child. I would be unable to afford this incredible care if she did not accept all of our insurance plans.

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,**

Jessa Reinhardt- Jessareinhardt@gmail.com