

Susan Tipton

9:47 AM (5 hours ago)

to me

February 2, 2022

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

Dear House Health Care Committee,

My name is Susan Tipton, I am a patient of a Naturopathic Doctor. I would like to share my experience working with this 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 my ND. I have been a patient of Dr. Alexandria N-G for about ten years. I feel cared for and I am cared for with the dedicated time and attention to my healthcare needs. Dr. A works in concert with my PCP. I am 76 and have only one prescription- I am in great health due to the health regimine suggested by Naturopathic physicians for the last 15 years. I am not a drain on the healthcare systems, nor insurance providers. However, I must pay for naturopathic care out of pocket because it is not covered by my insurance.

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.

My licensed ND manages the majority of my healthcare needs. Whether it be my annual exam, lab orders, other health screenings and prescriptions. They also refer 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, Susan Tipton

Your email: _____sdtipton@gmail.com_____