

vote yes on HB2555

Cheri Logan <cheriandkarl@gmail.com> Tue, Feb 14, 5:22 PM (2 days ago)

to me

Dear House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee,

Our names are Cheri and Karl Logan, patients of a licensed naturopathic doctor (ND) in Portland. We would like to share our experiences working with our doctor, and ask you to support HB2555.

The clinical expertise and unique training that our doctor offers, coupled with the dedicated time and attention given to all of our concerns, makes him irreplaceable to our family. All three of our daughters are also patients of his and we have been for many years. He has helped us just as much as, if not more than, our primary care doctors at Kaiser. He also works collaboratively with our Kaiser doctors to help coordinate a well balanced plan for our health and healing.

He takes the time to teach us about our health and how to best manage all of our concerns through diet and nutrition, staying active, overcoming stress, and improving my sleep, in addition to prescribing medications or alternative treatments. This is the best type of preventive medicine and has saved us from worse illness or more expensive treatments down the line.

Unfortunately, naturopathic doctors in Oregon are not being fairly compensated for the care they give us and for the important role they play in our state's healthcare workforce. Naturopathic doctors are paid about half of what all the other provider types (MDs, DOs, NPs and PAs) are paid for the same exact billing code and same service provided. This discrepancy puts my doctor on unstable financial ground and puts my access to my provider of choice in jeopardy. Naturopathic doctors are being forced to drop insurance plans to remain financially viable. Unfortunately our insurance plans is one of the ones that was just dropped and we will now have to pay out of pocket when we see him.

It is essential that I be able to utilize my health insurance to see my doctor. I cannot afford to both purchase health insurance and pay out of pocket for my regular and preventive care. It's not only unfair, it's unrealistic. I need my ND to stay in network with my insurance and to stay in business!

We are asking you to please vote yes on HB2555 and ensure access to licensed naturopathic doctors.

Sincerely,
Cheri and Karl Logan